'47 Jan – Dec

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

December 29, 1946 - January 4, 1947

-2-

Tuesday, December 31 Cloudy

'Twas the afternoon before Christmas at our little old Walker house. Its new owners, Mr. and Mrs. Colby, wanted to be "in" by the 25th but here it was, the 24th and the carpenters were still in possession. Sawing and hammering sounds filled the air as unlike a melody of Christmas music as any noise could be. Still the new mistress was determined. There would be a tree in the old "keeping room" and a fire on the hearth. "Boys", she addressed the workmen, "I'm going out for a spell and I'd like to have you clean up before you leave; put the sea horses away and sweep the floor. Tomorrow is Christmas."

Returning an hour or two later, a loud bush greeted Mrs. Colby as she swung open the heavy, panelled door, her arms filled with greens and trimmings. The room was spic and span, as if a dozen housemaids had been there. Sea horses neatly hung on the wall, the floor was sweet, not a trace of dust remained. The boys had done a handsome job and when finished, joyfully placed on the old pine floor in front of the hearth, an intricate pattern of nails. It spelled "Merry Christmas!"

Wednesday, January 1, 1947 Cold, Cloudy

New Year's Day arrived very quietly at the Inn this year. It was a peaceful day - a portent perhaps of the future. The guests were in good spirits and seemed hopeful of what the new year would bring. Among them we were glad to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Cuff. After working here as steward for many years, Mr. Cuff left during the war to do his bit at an army cafeteria in New Haven, Connecticut. His health gave out and he is just now getting back on his feet again after a long illness. He was warmly greeted by his many friends all through the house.

Thursday, January 2 Pleasant

Massachusetts again has a Governor Bradford. This time Robert Fiske Bradford, direct descendant of Governor Bradford who replaced Governor Carver in 1621. In 1777, one William Bradford was an Inn keeper and on the bar room wall hangs a bill of lodging presented by Bradford to a Captain Crosby. This is written in shillings and pence; the total for five days lodging and meals being a little over one pound ($5.00). Many guests thoughtlessly connect this Inn keeper Bradford with the early governor. The new Governor Bradford was inaugurated today.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

December 29, 1946 - January 4, 1947

Friday, January 3, 1947 — Cold

Because of fog and icy roads both the Redstone and Southwest Schools were closed today; the children probably happy to have a holiday so soon after the long Christmas recess. It meant no dancing class, also which they really did mind missing. In the evening the bus was able to pick up the usual quota of girls and dancing classes were held as usual. There were even a few visitors, among them two Wayside Inn Boys School graduates in uniform.

Rev. Hoffman has come to spend a few days for rest and relaxation and "meditation", as he calls it. He has a very taxing daily schedule. Besides being pastor of the Cornerstone Baptist Church in Cambridge, he sponsors a "Youth for Christ" program on the radio, broadcasting every morning at 6:45. It is called "Wings of the Morning". Rev. Hoffman is the Sky Pilot and three other young men are the Co-Pilot, Pilot and Navigator. The work must be worth-while, as he has a large following and evidently knows how to appeal to young people.

Saturday, January 4, 1947 — Very Cold

Mme. Gurney-Raymond has been mentioned frequently in the Diary of late. Perhaps the most interesting item concerning her has slipped our notice until today. On the Bar is still standing the little wooden cup with which she presented us the day she arrived. She came by bus and had hardly got into the Bar room and settled herself with a sigh of complete satisfaction by the fire when up she jumped again and said, "Oh, I brought you something!" Out of her travelling bag she brought this cup shaped something like an egg cup, only larger, and it had a nicely fitting cover surmounted by a wooden knob. "This was made by my great-great grandfather", she said, "of bitter wood. When the cup was filled with water and allowed to stand, the water became bitter and had some medicinal qualities much desired in those days". We shall put it in the old kitchen presently where it will give added interest to our other fine examples of wooden ware.

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THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

January 5 to 11, 1947

Sunday, January 5 Partly Cloudy

Karl Compton, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was one of our dinner guests this afternoon, coming with Mrs. Compton and Professor and Mrs. Hunsicker. They sat for a long time in the Barroom in front of the fireplace and among other things talked abut the Ford Foundation. Mr. Compton is a member of the Board and has been to the Inn several times. In February, 1946 he came with the U. N. O. site committee. Since then, Mrs. Compton has entertained at luncheon in the old Kitchen.

Monday, January 6 Sunny

This was a very quiet day. One could draw a full breath, relax and enjoy the feeling of the Inn and hear the clock slowly ticking. This is the kind of day when odd jobs of painting and carpentry can be attended to, a squeaky door mended, a radiator made more level, shelves taken out to make room for a new safe back of the Bar. Books in which the Diary is filed can be brought up-to-date. Library books can be checked. This last is one of the most interesting chores, as many fascinating books are handled in the process. One is reluctant to put them back on the shelf. We do so with the silent resolve to read them all some day.

Tuesday, January 7 Fair

Some years ago, probably fifteen, Hamlin Garland, writer of pioneer life in the Middle West and author of "Trail Makers of the Middle Border" was here as Mr. Ford's guest and stayed several days. Since then, he has passed away, but his writings will live for a long, long time. Today one of his best poems is printed on the weekly church sheet received from Dr. Rose, one of the Fraters. This is the last verse of "The Question":

"What shall I do to be just?
Teach me, O ye of the Light
Whom the poor and the rich alike trust;
My heart is aflame to be right!"

Wednesday, January 8 Sunny

Mrs. Childs was a luncheon guest today. She has just moved to Sudbury. In fact, her husband has bought one of the oldest houses in town and she came to the Inn to compare notes, as well as to eat. In the evening a young man, while waiting for din-

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

January 5-11, 1947, inclusive

Wednesday, January 8 (continued)

ner seemed very much interested in the house. He asked a lot of questions and finally was heard to remark, "I'm coming here on my honeymoon!"

The countryside is very beautiful just now. The snow in the fields is covered with a shiny crust. The squirrels scamper over it, hunting for food. They make no impression on the hard surface. If there is a colorful sunset every indentation in the field over towards the mill takes on the color of the sky. At night when the lamps are lighted, the warm glow is reflected in lovely pools of yellow.

Thursday, January 9 Cloudy

The Library is still occupying a good deal of our attention in its annual going over and books are the topic of the day. The Longfellow books are arranged on one shelf; Whittier on another and so forth. During the busy season these become mixed up as guests borrow them for evening reading. Lately we have lent Whittier's "Snow Bound" several times. Books on old furniture get the most wear, because they supply the answers to the many questions asked about our collection of early chairs and tables and numerous household utensils. The "History of Sudbury" and the "Howe Geneology" are perhaps the most popular books in the closet.

Friday, January 10, 1947 Fair and Colder

Among our luncheon guests today were three interesting young ladies, one of whom came from Turkey. There she had read Longfellow's poems and studied about the Inn. Naturally, she was thrilled to actually be here. The purpose of her visit to America is to continue her education and she is enrolled at Mt. Holyoke College. After graduation our guest will go to the Deaconess Hospital in Boston and eventually become a chemistry instructor, probably in her native land.

Saturday, January 11, 1947 Very Cold

Fifteen people braved the cold of this January night and came not on dog sled, but by heated automobile to partake of dinner in the old dining room. Afterwards the ballroom furnished the setting for an informal entertainment, piano playing and singing.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

January 12-18, 1947

Sunday, January 12 Warmer

The old chairs in the Bar-room have sat and sat in their respective places for years and years. To those who have seen them every day they are just lovely old chairs. The chairs, however, have evidently been acquiring certain characteristics unnoticed until today when one of the small fry suddenly discovered that each one has a distinct personality. "That chair is for grandpa", she said, "and that one is mother's chair. This one is for sister and that one over there is baby's chair". As she pointed to each in turn, it was easy to distinguish the determining factors. The sturdy Elder Brewster chair with its relatively large posts, high back and wide seat, would indeed suggest a robust grandfather. The slightly smaller Carver chair, more simple in design, would be just right for mother. Sister's chair is definitely smaller and lower and its turnings are graceful. The tiny arm chair, a few inches in height from the floor and made for a small child, belonged, it seemed, to this seven year old, to baby. Glad to meet our newly discovered chair family!

Monday, January 13 Cold

The weather was the topic of conversation today. The thermometer registered a little above zero and this caused all the puddles of melted snow to freeze into solid ice in the parking space. One car had to be pried out with picks and lots of salt. Josephine Pond is frozen and a few skaters ventured on it yesterday.

Five business men from Framingham had lunch and Dr. Cross after his lunch showed a young man through the rooms. Having been here many times, Dr. Cross knows the history of the Inn and we could hear him telling our pet stories as they went from room to room.

Tuesday, January 14 Sleet

These quiet evenings are brightened by our new neighbors Mr. and Mrs. Colby, especially Mrs. Colby who is always vivacious and cheerful. She has a merry little laugh and in spite of delays and discouragements during the day, comes in smiling every night around dinner time. Here she is met by

Tuesday, January 14 (continued)

Mr. Colby who has spent his day in an office at Clinton, Massachusetts and together they talk over the progress, or lack of it, being made on their renovation of the old Walker house. Painters and carpenters still hold sway. The kitchen is without pots and pans and the ice box is empty. The Colbys are living in practically one room. The Inn is therefore a welcome spot when dinner time comes around.

Wednesday, January 15 Sleet

All schools west and north of Boston were closed today including ours, because of hazardous driving conditions. There was a thick fog and ice over everything. The trees were a beautiful sight but one could not admire them too much as walking was treacherous.

Another shelf of books in the library was checked. This time they were very old ones with such interesting titles as "A Peep at the Pilgrims in 1636" or "The Only True Mother Goose" or just "A Cook Book" by A Lady.

Thursday, January 16 Foggy

The officer in charge of the Naval Recruiting Station at Lowell, Mass. , spent considerable time here this afternoon and talked about his coin collection. He carries a list of "coins wanted" in his coat pocket, because, he explained, a valuable coin may be found in the most unexpected places. He said that a dish of old coins is often found in an old New England homestead where it was the custom to save old pieces of money. His home is in Mississippi and he spent his war years in the Submarine Service.

Friday, January 17 Cold

Winter Impression

Like paintings called impressionistic, this account of Winter at the Inn is a literary impression, written by one of our employees spending her first winter here.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

January 12-18, 1947

This was a beautiful Winter's day. The Inn looked equally beautiful with a background of pure white snow and gracefully swaying birch trees. Night adds a gray tinge to the snow; the birches are drab and sombre in contrast to their daytime appearance. Once over the threshold of the Wayside Inn, however, whether it be day or night, fair or stormy, the traveller is given a warm and hearty welcome. The friendly atmosphere and flickering firelight makes the traveller's visit one which he will long remember.

Saturday, January 18 Pleasant

Another week-end and more special parties. This evening was gay with an informal wedding dinner in the old dining room and another party in the new dining room at the same time. The latter was the dinner and business meeting of the Wayside Inn Boys School Alumni Association. Mr. and Mrs. Bowker came from Worcester as usual and brought their usual roses. Other pleasing guests were Mr. and Mrs. Grover Cronin of Waltham.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

January 19 - 25, 1947

Sunday, January 19, 1947 Pleasant

Forty-four years have passed since a little group of Universalist ministers chose the Inn as a Retreat for winter meditation and relaxation. Today the Wayside Inn Fraters are coming for their 45th Retreat. Dr. Max Kapp and Dr. John Van Schaick are heralding the event. They arrived yesterday and today sat ready and waiting for fellow Fraters.

During the latter part of the afternoon they came, two of three at a time. Dr. Etz, here for his 32nd year in succession, greeted all in his usual cordial manner, a manner unusually genuine and sincere. He is the "scribe" and keeps the records.

Chaplain Wallace Fiske, back from four years in China, is the Prior this time. He leads the meetings, introduces the speakers and sees to it that the Fraters are in the dining room when dinner is ready. This latter is not a difficult task, for the Fraters are ordinary men and while they do not chop wood, they are a hungry lot when the food signal is given.. Six partook of supper this evening, but when the clock struck ten, fifteen were here for "Evening Devotions". It is then that the regular custodians retire and leave the Inn to the Fraters. Fraters and Inn are enjoying this unique experience for the forty-fifth time.

Monday, January 20, 1947 Rain and Fog

An excellent day to stay in the house - the streets and paths were sheer ice.

The program of the Fraters got off to a good start with morning devotions at ten o'clock. Throughout the day, however, unusual activities seemed to be going on and towards four o'clock strange people began to gather in the parlor, dressed in clothes of another day. Here was a beautiful flowered waistcoat and a tall beaver hat and all the men wore high pointed collars and black stocks. With the rustling of full taffeta skirts from the only lady in the group, these people settled back in their chairs and the doors were closed. A rehearsal was in progress for the performance, to be given later in the evening, of a

Monday, January 20 (continued)

sketch entitled, "Longfellow Revisits the Inn After a Hundred Years". Dr. Max Kapp was the author and the parts were played as follows: Longfellow, Frater Fiske; Hawthorne, Frater Lalone; Lyman Howe, Frater Leining; Thoreau, Frater Cummings; Bronson Alcott, Frater Beach and Margaret Fuller, Miss Fisher.

The audience laughed heartily while these "queer" Concord folk reminisced and told funny stories about each other. Margaret played old tunes on the spinet and Longfellow favored the group by singing "Long, Long Ago". Then Thoreau with the consent of the author read one of the Tales, "The Legend Beautiful".

Longfellow then said, "Thank you, Henry David. The tale is over, the evening is spent, our time has gone. Perhaps we shall never be together here again, but others will come seeking what we have sought here, finding, I trust, what we have found. Many need the shelter of a quiet friendly hour. I propose that each of us shall leave hidden here forever, a measure of our joy and a portion of our peace and some courage and some strength to be forever inexhaustible and forever free to those who seek. Good night, my friends, and sweet, sweet dreams".

Tuesday, January 21, 1947 Pleasant

The sun peered through the clouds this morning and added its friendly warmth and cheer to the fine spirit of comradeship which prevails in the Inn during the Retreat period. The Fraters, after reading the morning papers, adjourned to the old Kitchen where Charles Wyman, a relatively new member, gave suggestions on "How To Read The Bible", based on Goodspeed's book.

This being a special anniversary year, the 45th, the Fraters arranged a program this afternoon called "Do You Remember?" and from the bursts of laughter heard, we presume some of the now-famous stories, told in by-gone days, were recalled. "Presentation of the Gold-headed Cane" was an especially funny

Tuesday, January 21,(continued)

one of Tomlinson's and the Fraters chuckled over it, when repeated by Wallace Rose.

The reminiscing was continued this evening when Dr. Etz showed moving pictures of a Retreat back in the late twenties period. This shows Miss Hopkins welcoming the ministers as pupils in the Mary Lamb school. The men are throwing snow-balls in the yard until Miss Hopkins appears in the doorway with school bell in hand to summon them to class. They file in one by one, performing youthful antics.

After the movies, the men brought chairs into the Parlor and formed a semi-circle. Then starting at the head of the line, a letter is given, the second man adding another letter and so on. In this way the spelling match starts, and ends, usually with the head man at the foot of the class. This continued until the Evening Devotions, which always end our day with the Fraters.

Honor guest with the Fraters this evening was Leonard Carmichael, President of Tuft's College.

Wednesday, January 22, 1947 Very Cold

Before breakfast Fraters Van Schaick and Scott left the Retreat. They were the first to go and one by one the others left, but most waited to attend the always impressive traditional communion service sitting around the trestle table in the old Kitchen conducted by Frater Reamon.

By luncheon time about twelve were left and to relieve the feeling of sadness that was creeping in, Dr. Leinin told one funny story after another,so we were all laughing in spite of ourselves.

Reluctant goodbyes were said after lunch and another Retreat was over excepting for one lone lorn Frater. Dr. Ellenwood had to wait for someone to come and get him. He said, "I feel like the last leaf on the tree", but he left with a cheery smile.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

January 19 - 25, 1947

-4-

Thursday, January 23, 1947 Very Cold

A party of sixteen motored over ice-capped roads from Milford, Massachusetts this morning and welcomed a warm spot in front of the Bar room fire before luncheon was served. Half of them were ministers and the other half, their women folk.

Friday, January 24, 1947 Sunny

Most interesting guest today was Mr. Van Doover from Holland who, before luncheon, stopped to admire the old Dutch table in the Bar room. He nodded affirmatively several times as the hostess described the table - as if to say he had seen others like it in his native country. He then went into a long conversation, in broken English, about other Dutch tables and said that he had seen some old tables in Holland with the family coat-of-arms, either carved or painted on the side of the table. Mr. Van Doover also admired the Coolidge sap bucket. He was hustled off after luncheon by several business associates who said they were driving their foreign guest to New Hampshire.

Saturday, January 25, 1947 Mild

Among our honored guests today came Mrs. Bancroft Beatley, wife of the President of Simmons College, with a group of twenty-five ladies.

The ladies partook of a chicken pie luncheon and later enjoyed a tour through the Inn. Mrs. Beatley mentioned that our guests were enjoying a college reunion and delegates had come from five leading women's colleges in America.

The Inn also welcomed Mrs. Marshall Field from Chicago and her young son, a student at St. Marks School. Mrs. Field had a very pleasing personality and looked "chic", as was to be expected, in brown suit with navy blue accessories.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

January 26 to February 1, 1947

Sunday, January 26, 1947 Warm

"That was the best roast beef I've had in a long time", said Mrs. Bean, dinner guest today. She went on to explain that roast beef in her own home is served in small slices. Here she was able to enjoy a thick, large cut from a large roast.

Other dinner guests today were Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Gorely of Wellesley Hills who are experts in the field of ceramics and about fifteen years ago founded the Wedgwood Club for collectors of that beautiful china.

Monday, January 27, 1947 Rain

This year the January thaw has been a real one. The snow is almost gone now and it would only take a few more warm sunny days for the lilac buds to burst forth. The first pussy willow has been found and bluebirds have been seen in parts of New England. Today the rain is filling the brooks which, freed from their covers of ice, can be heard babbling over the stones. The ice still holds, however, on Calvin Howe Pond and the other ponds.

In the midst of the rain Mr. and Mrs. Rhoades arrived for lunch. They never sit at home and bemoan the weather, but go right out in it and enjoy it.

Tuesday, January 28, 1947 Warm

"Thank You" notes are coming in from the Fraters. Dr. Van Schaick writes that he enjoyed this year's Retreat more than usual because "sometimes in the past the wise cracking has got on my nerves!" It seemed to those who listened in, that the wise cracking confined itself to Wednesday just before the Fraters said good-bye. Then they were joshing each other back and forth as a kind of cover-up for the sad time of parting. For instance, Rev. Ellenwood, who comes from Rhode Island, had to take his share of it and was asked if, in his state, a man was allowed to marry his widow's sister. To this Rev. Ellenwood replied, "Had you asked me that before my nap, I might have said 'yes' !" Dr. Van Schaick ended his note by saying that the Inn never seemed more hospitable or more cheery.

Wednesday, January 29, 1947 Clear and Cold

Yesterday's POST contained some sad news for us and for the people of Sudbury - namely the closing of the Southwest School. It has served the town for fifteen years and Mrs. Bennett has taught there faithfully and conscientiously since the opening of the school. Her pupils have been outstanding and when they graduate can compete with any other first year students upon entering high school. These children are going to miss her whom they fondly call "Ma" Bennett.

Another newspaper yesterday carried, underneath the heading, "Fifty Years Ago Today", the following item:

Sudbury's tavern of Revolutionary fame has been purchased by Edward R. Lemon of Dover, New Hampshire who will preserve the hostelry and live in it.

Thursday, January 30, 1947 Colder

The time is at hand when we are again at our research work on things old; stories about them or descriptions of antiques which help us to answer the numerous questions asked about the Inn furnishings.

Today some tavern signs in England were explained; signs which display "The Five Alls". It was discovered that the Five Alls were as follows: a bishop who was labeled "I pray for all", a lawyer "I plead for all", a farmer, " maintain all", a soldier "I fight for all" and a devil "I take all".

Something else found today was the name of the oldest known instrument played with a bow. It is called a crooth; the correct spelling being "crwth" and pronounced "crooth".

Friday, January 31, 1947 Pleasant

From all appearances this would seem like a balmy day in June, for the sky was clear and a warm south wind prevailed.

Mr. Duncan, a frequent guest at the Inn, took advantage of this spring-like day, by packing his knapsack and walking briskly through the wooded paths surrounding the Inn.

One more indication of spring was a pure white snowdrop, which bloomed for a few short hours, only to be swallowed up once more by the wintry blast.

Saturday, February 1, 1947 Clear

Noon of this crystal clear day brought two interesting guests. The first was Mr. Mechlin of Hudson, Massachusetts who brought a group of seven students to have luncheon and also to visit our historic Wayside Inn. The boys seemed intensely interested in everything they saw and were eager to go on and visit the Coach House, Grist Mill and Mary Lamb School.

We were also pleased to welcome Mr. Emerson on his first visit to the Inn. Mr. Emerson was especially interested in the width of the boards in the Barroom floor and especially the way they taper off at one end.

Mr. Emerson lives in a house on Brattle Street, which was built in ~~1600~~ late 1600's and contains this same kind of tapering boards both in the floors and on the walls.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

February 2 - 8, 1947

Sunday, February 2 Pleasant

The first of February brought news of the closing of the Grist Mill. Once before it was closed when Mr. Matheson, the miller, had to leave on account of illness. Then during the war, when there was no meal to grind, it had to be closed again. Good millers are scarce, but Mr. Perry of Sudbury was finally procured and he has been carrying on ever since. Children loved to visit him and he liked to make the wheel go around so that they could see the water splashing over it. Older people, too, will regret the closing of the Mill. Going there to get meal to take home or rambling around this picturesque spot was a favorite pastime for hundreds of people, especially on Sundays.

Monday, February 3 Cloudy

Today was one of those days when nothing outstanding occurred. The weather looked unsettled and not many people ventured out. The routine duties of the Inn could be carried on without interruption. Fresh white curtains were put up in the old ballroom and the usual cleaning and polishing could be done so that everything inside the house is shining. So many people speak of the pewter, especially. When asked what is used to clean it with, they are told "mostly elbow grease".

Miss Staples left Saturday for a two weeks vacation to visit a brother in New Jersey. According to the weatherman there was no snow that day in that vicinity. This was her chief anxiety about the trip, since she and her mother were driving.

Tuesday, February 4 Rain

As the rain beat against the window panes and the wind whistled around the Inn, an elderly gentleman stood in the bar room and related the story of a "chair" and a "quilt".

The chair, which was like the Carver chair in the bar room, was made by a cabinet maker, who later bartered it for a rare quilt. Both the chair and the quilt were handed down from one generation to another, until the owner of the chair married the owner of the quilt. So, in this generation, quilt and chair have found their way into one family.

Wednesday, February 5 Cold and Clear

A most unusual phenomenon occurred at intervals throughout the day; snow flurries with the sun shining at the same time. It was a beautiful sight to see the snow whirling and sparkling in the sunlight against a blue sky.

Mrs. Campbell, at one time a frequent visitor to the Inn, came for lunch for the first time in several years. An elderly lady who was Mrs. Campbell's guest, was as enthusiastic and thrilled with the house as any young person.

Thursday, February 6 Very Cold

The temperature this morning was 9° above zero, a cold day to go fishing! But Mr. Estabrook arrived on an early bus and set off with a man who drove over from Arlington, to a nearby pond. It must be worth-while, but it seems like plain hard work to those who are not fishing enthusiasts.

Just before lunch, Ann Bradshaw from Sudbury, who was a hostess here last year, brought a group of friends to see the Inn. We left her to her own devices, since she is so familiar with the rooms and made an excellent guide.

Sometimes we have very unusual names to write on our meal slips. Today a Miss Trampleasure ordered lunch. She was from California and said the Inn was the most interesting place she had yet see, "and so clean and well kept!"

Friday, February 7 Snow

The weather forecast for today was cold, with occasional snow flurries. One to two inches of snow fell throughout the day, and the temperature went steadily downward, until it reached a cool ten above zero.

Among the guests that ventured forth on this wintry day, were our ever friendly neighbors, the Colbys - this time bringing a guest.

Early evening brought Mr. L. Jones of Cambridge, Massachusetts. Mr. Jones and his party of seven enjoyed a roast beef dinner, served to them in the old kitchen.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

February 2-8, 1947

Saturday, February 8 Pleasant

This was a day of gaiety at the Inn. We began early in the morning with a wedding breakfast, served to a party of seven, in the old dining room.

The remainder of the party arrived at noon, at which time a chicken pie luncheon was served in the large dining room.

Vocal selections were rendered by several of the guests, and late in the afternoon the joyful bride and groom left on their wedding trip.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

February 9 - 15, 1947

Sunday, February 9, 1947 Cold, Windy

Mr. and Mrs. Whitman from Marlboro celebrate their fortieth wedding anniversary today. About thirty people sat down to a delicious turkey dinner at one long table in the old dining room. In the group were several small, but very well-behaved, children. The table looked very attractive with an arrangement of pine in pewter bowls and two tall pale yellow tapers in pewter candlesticks. It was a gala occasion for the whole family, because the birthday of their married daughter was being celebrated as well. Nine members of the party had driven all the way from Providence, Rhode Island to be here.

Among our dinner guests later in the day were two men and two women who seemed to be conversing in German. It was found out by looking in the register that they were from Switzerland.

Monday, February 10, 1947 Cold

We are still having high winds and cold weather in the bargain. People come in with rosy cheeks and noses, too, and make straight for the welcome warmth of the fire.

Helen Eaton came in to discuss plans for a wedding. She is a Sudbury girl and a graduate of the Redstone and Southwest Schools. Her engagement to a Sudbury boy has just been announced.

In the evening a little boy said to his mother, who was showing him the Hessian andirons, "Are they gingerbread men, mummy?"

Tuesday, February 11, 1947 Pleasant

This was a rather uneventful day as far as parties and interesting guests were concerned, but not a dull day as far as improvements at the Inn are concerned.

Several new additions came to the Inn today. The first was a shiny new set of silverware for the tables. Everyone in the pantry was busily polishing and counting the new purchase, in order to put it in readiness for the noon meal.

Later in the afternoon, the men folk began scurrying from place to place - the object being to install emergency lights at various points throughout the house.

Tuesday, February 11 (continued)

Last, but not least, we find the ever present Mr. Coulter finishing up the day's work with paint can and brush in hand- puttingthe finishing touches on his freshly painted pantry.

Wednesday, February 12, 1947 Clear and Cold

Today our flag which saw such steady service day and night during the war, is again fluttering in the breeze in honor of Lincoln's birthday.

A clipping from a Sudbury newspaper has been brought to our attention. It concerns the last meeting of the Wayside Inn Boys School Alumni, which was held at the Inn recently. It was voted to purchase a Memorial Bible to be placed at the Martha - Mary Chapel. In this Bible will be inscribed the names of all the boys who gave their lives in World War II. Wilfred Allen of Allen's Country Store was appointed to investigate the purchase.

Thursday, February 13, 1947 Cold and Sunny

Today the Inn welcomed an interesting group of sorority girls from Boston University.

The girls arrived early in the evening to decorate their tables in the large dining room with heart shaped favors and centerpiece. The thirty girls enjoyed a turkey dinner served to them at tables arranged around the fireplace.

The remainder of the evening was spent with group singing at the piano in the large dining room,and a tour through the Inn.

Friday, February 14, 1947 Fair and Warm

On this Valentines evening, the Inn resounded with the laughter and gaiety of sixty young people. The occasion was the annual Junior Prom held by the students of the Wayside Inn Boys School.

Friday, February 14 (continued)

The hall was attractively decorated with yellow and blue streamers, which made a colorful background for Mr Haynes and his orchestra.

The ever popular "Virginia Reel" was the high-light of the evening, as it brought many of our friends and employees in from the side lines. Mrs. Bennett came in a dashing red gown with white carnation corsage; Miss Dolan, in jet black; Mrs. Purdy, in a stunning rhinestone studded pink marquisette gown. Mr. Haley and Mr. Flaherty also ventured forth.

Refreshments were served at intermission, and a joyous time was had by all.

Saturday, February 15, 1947 Pleasant

Today the Inn welcomed quite a number of guests and among them came a frequent guest - Professor Schell from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Professor Schell entertained a group of twenty-five students and faculty members at a luncheon served in the old dining room. Following the luncheon, a business meeting was held in the small ballroom. Evening brought the group back for dinner and motion pictures in the ballroom.

A fashionable dinner-dance was also part of today's activities. Sixty couples enjoyed a roast lamb dinner served in the large dining room, and concluded the evening with dancing in the large ballroom.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

February 16-22, 1947

Sunday, February 16, 1947 Very Pleasant

Such names as DuPont, Van Alen and Altemus usually appear in the society section of the New York Times. Today they must be recorded as week-end guests at the Wayside Inn. Victor DuPont, Jr. is, of course, of the famous Wilmington, Delaware family. The Van Alens come from Millbrook, New York and Mrs. Altemus is registered from Belmont Court, Newport, Rhode Island. All have boys attending the Fay School at Southboro. Today they bid farewell under protest from the boys who entertained them yesterday with a mid-winter school carnival, skating, basketball, etc. Mr. and Mrs. Coates of Philadelphia stayed over for dinner, thereby filling up their son and his friends with a hearty mid-day meal before leaving.

Monday, February 17, 1947 Cold

There came to our attention recently an interesting bit of news concerning the Longfellow House in Cambridge, namely that it has been turned into a lodging house again. Young Henry Longfellow in the early 1800's was a boarder when this lovely old mansion was kept by Widow Craigie. The story is that she refused to give him a room at first because of his very youthful appearance, but when she found he was a professor at Harvard, she was very glad to take him in. After Longfellow was married later on, he bought the house and it was his home for fifty years. Since then his grandson Henry Wadsworth Longfellow Dana has been living there alone. The house is owned by Miss Ann Thorp, grand-niece of the poet and recently she has allowed several young couples and a few Radcliffe students to occupy the third floor attic. Now Miss Thorp has been given permission to use all of this historic structure, which Washington used as his headquarters, as a rooming house.

Tuesday, February 18, 1947 Very Pleasant

A young man has been staying here for the past several days, keeping a room on the third floor to which he retreats as soon as his day's work is done. The day's work, we learned this evening, is in connection with the Waltham Watch Company. This man is trying to promote a new and delicate steel gear, which, if used in watches, would prolong the life of a timepiece and reduce wear on certain other parts. The gear is at present in the

experimental stage and may not prove practical until some far distant future. Our guest, however, seemed enthusiastic and happy about his "find" and interested in Mr. Ford's collection of time pieces at Dearborn.

Wednesday, February 19, 1947 Pleasant

The day was warm and sunny in the morning, but soon the wind began to rise and people coming in at luncheon time said it was getting very cold. Among them was a group of five, two of whom were elderly ladies; in fact, one was eighty-six years old and the other, ninety-two. The latter was quite disappointed not to see lobster on the menu, but we noticed she thoroughly enjoyed her chicken fricassee.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitman came again;this time, with Mrs. Lippard, their daughter, and her son Peter. Peter, aged five, pulled at his grandfather's hand and said he wanted to look around the house, which they did until they were called for luncheon.

Another luncheon guest, a Mrs. Hammond, said she was very anxious to come again sometime and spend the night as her father had years ago. When he was moving from West Brookfield to Waltham he stayed here over night and was allowed to store his load of furniture in the barn.

Thursday, February 20, 1947 Partly Cloudy

A Mr. Sprague, recent guest, told of owning a dinner set which once belonged to Longfellow. He said that the set had no special sentimental charm for him, but he likedits blue and gold border and bought it several years ago.

Another recent guest was Mr. Henry S. Dennison of the well-known paper company whose home is not far from here. His first wife died several years ago and he has married again. The new Mrs. Dennison came with her husband and inquired in a neighborly way for some absentee members of the Inn staff.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

February 16-23, 1947

Friday, February 21, 1947 Snow

Our mild spring-like weather was climaxed today with a heavy snow fall. The storm, which began in the early morning, lasted throughout the day and evening, and left the countryside blanketed with eight to ten inches of snow.

Only a few people ventured forth in the storm, but by evening the Old Kitchen was put in readiness for a dinner party. Mr. Flanagan from Belmont entertained a group of friends around the glowing fire, which added a touch of warmth and friendliness on a cold winter's eve.

Saturday, February 22, 1947 Very Cold

February 22nd, Washington's birthday, and a crisp winter morning, found everyone scurrying about to put the Inn in readiness for the holiday guests.

A quick glance at the reservations showed that many of our friends were going to be with us today, but an air of surprise filled our hearts when a tall stately woman appeared in the doorway, then advanced to the desk and exclaimed, "I am Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and I had a reservation for dinner". Mrs. Roosevelt looked charming in her black wool crepe dress, black coat with silver fox neck piece, and modest black hat.

Our honored guest stood by the fireplace in the bar room and listened intently as a hostess related the historic significance of the Wayside Inn.

Mrs. Roosevelt lectured in Boston on Friday, and came to Southboro to see her nephew. We were indeed honored that Mrs. Roosevelt concluded her trip to New England with a visit here.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

February 23 - March 1, 1947

Sunday, February 23 Pleasant

Speaking with a decided foreign accent, some Swedish guests today turned out to be Mr. and Mrs. Tugvar Luannilson of Drottingholm, Stockholm. They explained that Drottingholm is the little, old village adjacent to the King's Palace. It originally supported one shoemaker, one cabinet maker, one blacksmith, etc., as did every other small village in the center of a large farming area. Drottingholm, however, was the King's own village. People who live there now are desirous of maintaining its old customs and traditions. A committee has been formed, pamphlets have been printed and Mr. Luannilson is prominent in the restoration work.

He has come to America to give lectures (not on Drottingholm) at some of the largest universities and is at present spending two weeks at Harvard. Later he plans to visit the Rouge Plant and would like very much to return to New England in the spring to spend a longer time at the Wayside Inn.

Monday, February 24 Clear and Cold

Two sisters, who were house guests last night, left this morning, regretfully saying that they had had a wonderful rest. They especially enjoyed a walk last night when the stars were very beautiful and unusually brilliant.

Mr. Thomas came again for lunch with some business men. Among them was a man from Norway.

In spare moments, linen squares are being hemmed to put on the tables in the bedrooms this summer.

Tuesday, February 25 Windy

In spite of cold winter winds and ten inch snow banks, people are journeying from place to place and come from long distances to Sudbury. During the past week-end, guests have jotted down their names in the register book from these far-away places: Paris, Corsica, Argentina, Belgium, England and Canada.

Tuesday, February 25, (continued)

Two young ladies from Weston are here for overnight to study our period furniture. They are compiling material on three or four different eras in American history - ty es of houses, furniture used, color of paint and kinds of wood employed. The purpose of the study is not quite clear. It may develop into a book. "We're having fun, anyway!",they joyfully exclaimed.

Wednesday, February 26 Sunny

The sun melted a good deal of the snow today, but not enough to show the bare ground.

Two people from Mexico City taxied out from Boston. The driver explained that they could not speak much English but they seemed to enjoy the house.

Thursday, February 27

One hundred and forty years ago on February 27th, our beloved poet was born in Portland, Maine. His last resting place is in Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, where every year on this day a wreath is placed. It is made from greens gathered near the Inn and is laid on the modest stone which bears no other inscription than the name - "Longfellow"

"And departing leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time".

Friday, February 28 Pleasant

One of our house guests came down to breakfast today with a gleaming smile on her face. She explained that it was like finding a million dollars to look out the window this morning and see a blue jay. Our guest went on to explain that she lived in the city, and it was a great treat to see the birds and the snow.

Our frequent guests, the Pitcairns, came for dinner this evening and as usual complimented us on the fine quality of the dinner. The Pitcairns are newlyweds and since Mrs. Pitcairn has not quite mastered the art of cookery, they look forward to coming to the Inn.

Saturday, March 1 Cold

On this winter day, as the B & W bus drew up to the front gate, two elderly ladies descended and approached the Inn with short and quickened steps. As they approached the hostess, they announced themselves as Miss Hall from the State Teachers College in Framingham, Massachusetts and Miss Cove.

Evening found our two guests enjoying the peace and solitude of the Inn, as well as the flickering firelight in the old bar room.

Miss Hall and her friend, Miss Cove, seemed over-joyed at the opportunity to spend the night at the Inn, for, as they explained, they had visited the Wayside Inn many times, but just never found it convenient to stay overnight.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

March 2 to 8, 1947

Sunday, March 2, 1947 Stormy

March has come in like a lion. March winds are roaring across the quiet Sudbury meadows and large flakes of snow are whirling through the air. The worst storm this year! Travelling by foot or on wheels is not an especially easy or enjoyable task, but in spite of it, a few guests, wrapped in woolen scarfs and fur coats, found food and shelter under this old gambrel roof. Last guest of all came from Texas.

Monday, March 3, 1947 Windy

House-hunters last week were charming Dr. and Mrs. Pilling of Philadelphia, who spent two nights here. They will soon be our neighbors in Lincoln, where an apartment was located and to which they will bring their new daughter. The proud young mother showed a snapshot of her bouncing child and promised to make her acquainted with the Wayside Inn.

Mrs. Pilling entertained us also with an account of her boarding school days at Chatham Hall, where she knew Miss Josephine Ford. Dr. Pilling graduated from Yale in the same class with Mr. Henry Ford II and after serving in the war, has been chosen as an assistant to Dr. Cross in the Children's Hospital, Boston.

Tuesday, March 4, 1947 Windy

A recent guest talked of a number of things: fire buckets, General Lafayette, Ann Hathaway's cottage and a house in Vermont.

Taking the subjects one by one, he told of the canvas bag and wrench which was carried in every old fire bucket, the bag to hold trinkets and household articles picked up in a hurry and the wrench for taking down post beds.

Of General Lafayette our guest spoke with the greatest admiration and respect.

Ann Hathaway's cottage come to mind as the subject of settles was discussed. The settle in the famous English cottage is equipped with a special back-rest which makes a comfortablesseat instead of the usual hard, straight-backed type.

Last, but not least, a house in Vermont was mentioned and the problem of choosing a name for it. Being located in Vermont, our famous sap bucket suggested a sugar bush. This as a name for his house met with the approval of Mr. Rantoul, who seemed well versed on almost any subject. He explained that a sugar bush is really a collection of maple trees.

Wednesday, March 5, 1947 Clear and Cold

A tall, stately gentleman came to the Inn for breakfast this morning - along with his fifteen guests. The gentleman was Bishop L. O. Hartman of Boston and the occasion for this breakfast was to bring these delegates together in order to make arrangements for a conference to be held in Boston in 1948.

Bishop Hartman's guests were Methodist clergymen who came from all sections of the United States. Several came all the way from San Francisco, California and seemed fascinated with the Inn and its furnishings.

Each person had received a copy of "The Characters in the Tales of a Wayside Inn" by John Van Schaick, Jr. from Bishop Hartman, so that each guest would be familiar with our historic Inn upon arrival.

Thursday, March 6, 1947 Pleasant

Gaiety and grief sat side by side in the dining room last evening when Mrs. Grover Cronin from Waltham arrived at the same time as Mrs. Warren Powell from Concord. Unknown to them, they symbolized the above emotions. Mrs. Cronin was cheerful and full of fun while Mrs. Powell, who has recently lost her husband, showed plainly her great sorrow behind a warm, brave smile.

Friday, March 7, 1947 Clear

Miss Herbert, who was a recent overnight guest, came back to the Inn for luncheon today. She is a Red Cross worker, and has been working in this section for the past few weeks.

Last, but not last, came Mr. and Mrs. Knox, who entertained guests at dinner. When leaving, Mrs. Knox raved about the many beautiful pieces of pewter which are on display throughout the Inn.

Saturday, March 8 Pleasant

This had proved to be an uneventful day until Mr. Holcomb and his five guests walked briskly into the bar room.

As it was early afternoon, they registered for overnight and then departed for a walk through the countryside. They returned cold and hungry, for they had walked to Bradshaw's store in Sudbury and back again.

After dinner, the group of six gathered in the bar room to hear the hostess relate the history of the Wayside Inn. Mr. Holcomb is a historian, so he was intensely interested in everything he could learn about the Inn. The group concluded the evening by reading the "Tales of a Wayside Inn", in front of the open fire in the bar room.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

March 9 to 15, 1947

Sunday, March 9th — Pleasant

A thirty-ninth wedding anniversary was celebrated here today by Mr. and Mrs. Theodore F. Borst of Framingham Center. After dinner they wandered through the rooms and took special notice of the Longfellow room, where several days of their honeymoon were spent.

Nearly two decades ago, Mr. Lemon was the landlord and transportation was by horse and buggy.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Borst looked in good health and proudly announced their happy record.

Monday, March 10th — Partly Cloudy

A dear little group of "Brownies" were our guests on a recent afternoon and lived up to the principles taught by their organization by being quiet and attentive as they heard the story of the house. They are the pre-Girl Scouts and showed interest in the old cooking utensils. Two or three helpful mothers drove cars from Wayland, in order to give these thirty lively youngsters, between seven and nine years of age, a profitable after-school entertainment.

Tuesday, March 11th

Miscellaneous

Mrs. Myles Standish was a recent visitor. Her husband is a direct descendent of Plymouth's early captain.

Another recent guest said that her grandfather refused to eat his food from anything but a wooden plate. His knife and fork made too much noise on the new-fangled china dishes.

Mrs. Spencer from Worcester brought some two tined forks to show the hostesses. The forks have wooden handles which are unusual.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

March 9 to 15, 1947

Tuesday, March 10th (Continued)

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt described her recent visit to the Inn in the Detroit Free Press as being "delightful".

A guest from Charlottesville, Virginia got a ride back to Boston with an ex-G. I., his wife and baby, when the bus he planned to take, whizzed by.

Crocuses are in bloom outside the Old Kitchen window.

Wednesday, March 12th Pleasant

This afternoon a young couple came to the Inn and registered from Basel, Switzerland. Although they were not very talkative, they spent a long time studying the furniture, pictures and articles on the various walls. When leaving, they remarked how much they enjoyed everything and especially the primitive implements found in our Old Kitchen.

At noon, a fitting remark was made by an elderly lady as she paid her luncheon check. "I feel like my grandson, who, when asked if he would like another cookie, replied, 'I would, Granny, but I is tight!"

An early dinner was enjoyed by Rev. Ockenga and his family in the Old Dining Room. Rev. Ockenga is pastor of the Park Street Church in Boston and is very anxious to have his only son, now three months old, follow in his footsteps.

Thursday, March 13th Mild

The executive committee of the Women's National Farm and Garden Association gathered at the Inn this noon and were served a delightful luncheon in the Old Dining Room.

The group, under the direction of Mrs. Paul Burrage, Past President of the Association, came to the Inn, after viewing the Spring Flower Show in Boston, where the New England Farm and Garden Association has a booth again this year.

Those attending the luncheon included Mrs. Hubert Lazell Carter of Newtonville, national Vice-President; Mrs. Paul Burrage of Weston, Past President, along with fourteen members of the Association.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

March 9 - 15, 1947

Friday, March 14, 1947 Cloudy

The New York State Legislature has designated this week as Cultural History Week. Considerable discussion of the theme has ensued. What signifies Cultural History?

Historians have come to the conclusion that furniture, utensils, tools and implements used by everyday people of past generations can, in a sense, be treated as documents just as much as manuscripts. In other words, antiques belong to our cultural history and should be treated with as much importance as storybook history. The Inn then serves the American people as a school of Cultural History.

Saturday, March 15, 1947 Sunny and Warm

This was a perfect day for an early spring wedding held this evening at eight o'clock. Because of a fire which destroyed their own church in Northboro some time ago, it was necessary for Miss Rich and Mr. Vaughn to have the ceremony performed elsewhere and the Martha-Mary Chapel was chosen. About one hundred and fifty guests attended the simple candlelight ceremony.

During the rehearsal earlier in the day, the minister, Rev. Rosenberger, went around measuring distances with a ruler to get ideas for his new church which is in the process of construction. He admires our lovely chapel very much.

The Bowkers came as usual this time bringing red roses and the evening paper. Mr. and Mrs. Merritt of Worcester came with the Bowkers. Mr. Merritt works for Norton Company, a large concern making parts of machines. He picked up a pitcher in the taproom and said, "I wonder if this is a Norton pitcher!", and sure enough inscribed on the front was Frank B. Norton, Worcester, Massachusetts. Mr. Merritt told us that this man, the founder of the Norton Company, started in business as a potter.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

March 16 to 22, 1947

Sunday, March 16, 1947 Pleasant

"One Autumn night in Sudbury town" - the beginning of the "Tales of a Wayside Inn", introduced a special chapel service at the Framingham Teachers College recently. The prelude was followed by the Lord's Prayer and a description of the Inn given by one of the English pupils. Next came a talk on the furniture of the Inn. In fact, the whole chapel program was devoted to the Inn. It was planned by Miss Hall, one of the faculty members and a long-time friend of the Inn.

Monday, March 17, 1947 Pleasant

Bishop of Argyrocastron Pandeleimon, Greece, registered in our special book tonight. In his long black robe, black cap and long black beard, he was an outstanding figure. In spite of his sombre attire, however, he had a very jovial personality. He was especially interested in the Inn because he had translated some of Longfellow's poems into Greek. The Bishop tonight was the guest of a group of Greek business men from Worcester who were meeting to discuss ways and means of helping the people of Greece, where there is so much suffering from hunger.

Dinner was served in the Old Kitchen for twenty men. The table looked very attractive with the red and white checked table cloth and low pewter bowls filled with white snap dragons, red carnations and blue iris. It wasn't long before the carnations found their way to the lapels of several guests. A business discussion following the dinner lasted until late in the evening. Everyone seemed in good spirits and felt that the result of their conversations would mean some sort of relief to their suffering countrymen at home.

Tuesday, March 18, 1947 Pleasant

The first anniversary of a war bride's arrival in America was the occasion for a celebration at the Inn this evening. The bride, rosy cheeked and tweedy, came over on the Queen Mary and was met by her husband's parents who came from New York today for this "one year" party. The groom was a handsome fellow who was intro-

Tuesday, March 18, 1947 (Continued)

duced to his wife by an English cousin while serving overseas. Now he is studying at Harvard where the couple are living happily in one of the temporary housing units.

Wednesday, March 19, 1947 Sunny

The moderate temperature caused many guests to venture out and another group of Brownies came with their leaders to see the Inn today.

The bow window in the original dining room has become the setting for a group of some of our most interesting pieces of wooden ware. Most of them have to do with the process of "sugaring off". From a fine wooden yoke, two buckets are suspended and an iron kettle is there with wooden plate and ladles nearby. A gay red fringed napkin, and a basket of apples on a small three legged stool add color to the picture as well as one of our loveliest hooked rugs with a conventional leaf design in reds and browns. Pussy willows in earthen bottles frame the picture and add another spring-like touch.

Thursday, March 20, 1947 Cold

Miscellaneous

Mrs. Pitcairn dined here alone this evening with her arm in a sling as the result of a broken shoulder. To make matters worse, young Mr. Pitcairn is away from home on a business trip.

Miss Fisher looks and feels refreshed after her vacation in Virginia. She visited Williamsburg for the first time.

A lady identified one of our old china mugs today as being Pratt ware.

Friday, March 21, 1947 Mild

There is a touch of spring in the air today, which put everyone at the Inn in good spirits and eager to make everything look especially lovely for the week-end guests.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

March 16 to 22, 1947

Friday, March 21 (Continued)

A colorful pitcher, along with white snap dragons and red carnations, were used on the mantel in the Old Dining Room.

A brilliant red table cloth was used on the table in the Old Kitchen and was adorned with pewter poringers, pitcher and tankards.

Another gay tablecloth may be seen at the end of the hall. This one is set off with red Bohemian glassware, pussy willows and a large pewter plate.

The pewter and brass were given an extra rub and the Inn was ready to receive guests.

Saturday, March 22, 1947 Pleasant

The Old Kitchen was the scene of a surprise birthday party this evening.

The red and white checked table cloth was spread and white tapers lighted for the occasion.

Mrs. Woodmansie, who was in charge of the event, carried out the color scheme with red and white favors. An attractive cake containing many lighted candles was served with the dessert.

Our guests spent the remainder of the evening in front of the open fire in the Old Kitchen.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

March 23 to 29, 1947

Sunday, March 23 Cold - Windy

Sunday is the day for selling the largest number of books and post cards and our newest addition to the display is becoming very popular. This is a letter-booklet which guests like to send as a sort of "personal" letter to their friends. The "Tales of a Wayside Inn" is often called for, but as yet, our supply has not been replenished by Houghton, Mifflin Company, the publishers. It seems that at the time of the War, the government called upon all publishers to melt down their old plates in order to help in the metal shortage. Unfortunately the plates for the visitors' edition of the "Tales" were destroyed. This means that an entirely new set of plates for both text and illustrations must be made. Hence, a further delay in supplying our Sunday visitors with the most apropos souvenir of all.

Monday, March 24 Rain

A cold spring rain is falling today - about the only sign of spring there is, unless you consider a robin that someone saw or a blackbird that someone else thought he heard. Of course, the baby lambs are arriving in pairs about every day.

Mr. Beebe, paying for his lunch, remarked that his wife was a Howe, descended from Elias. Her grandmother used to go around telling people how to run their sewing machines.

Tuesday, March 25 Cloudy

Another Wayside Inn ghost story has been added to the collection. This one came from a recent guest who told of spending the night here sever l years ago. He was assigned the "Ole Bull" room. Waking up early in the morning, just as the dawn was beginning to break, our guest heard a creaking sound similar to the musical notes of a violin. He listened for quite a while, expecting at any moment to see Ole Bull's ghost appear with violin in hand.

"It may have been just a creaking of the floor boards", said our imaginative friend, "but my son who heard the story when a small boy, believes to this day that Ole Bull's spirit still lives at the Wayside Inn".

Wednesday, March 26 Very Windy-Snow Flurries

Several very interesting visitors ventured out today, in spite of the March winds which "do blow". Four ladies came to luncheon, one of whom was an American, living in Denmark, married to an Englishman. One of her sons was killed and another lost his leg in the war. A third had been interned in a Russian concentration camp.

An elderly gentleman, born in Denmark, remarked as he caught sight of the wooden yoke and pails hanging in the old dining room, "Many's the pail of water I've carried with one of those things on my shoulders!."

Sometimes we wish it were possible to know the stories behind these people. For instance, the man, looking like an Englishman, but registering from Maine, who remarked as he flipped through the pages of Dr. Van Schaick's "Characters in the Tales of a Wayside Inn", pausing a moment at each picture, "Lyman Howe, a fine New England Face! The Wales' all have that high forehead to this day, and we still have Treadwell's, too. Thomas Parsons, a thoughtful face but very repressed!" This gentleman whose name was Harry Beston called his wife to see the picture of the Spanish Jew in his oriental dress which seemed to them most appropriate and pleasing.

Thursday, March 27 Very Windy

Mys. Frederick S. Bacon of Newton was here today and examined two of our quilts; in fact, the only quilts which we have on display at the present time. She thought they were handsome pieces of chintz and finely quilted. Being a "quilt" expert, we value Mrs. Bacon's opinion. She has a remarkable collection, which she feels expresses an American folk art worthy of place in American history. After making a thorough study of quilts, Mrs. Bacon has lectured on the subject and when she does so, wears a beautiful Colonial dress which is most becoming to her fragile Southern beauty.

Friday, March 28 Fair

One of our luncheon guests today paused in the bar room for a few moments to look at the various objects on the wall. Our guest was immediately attracted by the Paul Revere lantern which hangs over the settle. The lantern is punched out in such a way that makes it attractive to the eye, but impractical for actual use, as it gives very little light.

Our guest went on to explain how her grandfather had overcome this situation. He merely placed the candle on top of the lantern in an especially devised holder. This was rather unsafe, but did give more light for the laborer who depended upon the candle for light.

Saturday, March 29 Cloudy

Last year, Mrs. Harding spent the late Spring and Summer months here, recuperating from an illness. Today she returned after a winter spent in the South where she saw and heard many fascinating birds. She spoke of seeing thousands of white egrets in Louisiana, while here on our Dutton Road pond two of these birds were discovered by Mrs. Harding last summer and proclaimed as rarities so far north. Mrs. Harding said she felt "Spring" in the air, so wanted to walk in the woods and recapture the charm of the Inn.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

March 30 to April 5, 1947

Sunday, March 30 Windy

A good deal of time was spent today with Dr. Hanson who is one of the Inn's oldest friends. He is and has been a successful physician in Belmont, Massachusetts for many years and often would, on a free afternoon, pick up Mrs. Hanson and come to the Inn for tea. Both were fond of the house, sitting in front of the fireplaces and telling of their only child John, who, too, has known and loved the Inn all his life. Today Dr. Hanson was a sad looking guest as he spoke of the death of his beloved wife and of his son who is now married and living in Maine. "This is the first time I've been here without them" he said, "and you will have to forgive me if I can't quite bear it".

Monday, March 31 Sunny - Warm

Our house guest, Mr. Hussey, came to spend Palm Sunday with us to avoid having a lonely day at home. The mourning band on his left sleeve suggested a recent death in the family and he told us he had lost his wife not quite a year ago. He was very much interested in the Sunday papers yesterday, explaining that he was looking for a picture of his son, "the Admiral", who had just officiated at the launching of the U. S. Cruiser Salem.

A group of 35 eighth grade students, accompanied by only one teacher and the bus driver went through the house in the afternoon. They were very much interested and well behaved. Later they enjoyed running through the fields enjoying the first spring-like weather we have had.

Later another group of students came from Perkins Institution for the Blind. These were a much quieter group, but just as interested. They wanted to "see" everything, which meant taking things in their hands or feeling with their delicate fingers. One little girl of eight, dressed in bright red, sat down at the spinet and couldn't be dragged away until she had finished her piece.

Tuesday, April 1, 1947 Partly Cloudy

The first of April came in like a lamb, making the day a pleasant one for thirty-two ladies from Salem Depot, New Hampshire. They chartered a bus and started early, arriving here in time to attend

Tuesday, April 1, (continued)

service in the Martha - Mary Chapel conducted by the school children. In the meantime, a turkey dinner was being prepared and was ready to serve at one o'clock. This the ladies enjoyed on the porch overlooking a lovely spring landscape, which must have reminded them of their own home state.

Wednesday, April 2nd Rain

This being vacation for some colleges, several students were noticed among our visitors today. Because of the rain which lasted all day, it wasn't very good weather for sight-seeing and the fires were appreciated more than ever.

Late in the evening a discouraged young couple arrived with a two months old baby. Like travelers in the early days, they were glad to find a warm welcome at the Inn and lodgings for the night. They had been hunting for a room since four o'clock in the afternoon. Their destination is the Naval Air Station at San Diego, California and although the baby was as good as gold, they were anxious to get rested for the long trip tomorrow.

Thursday, April 3rd

One of our new neighbors, Mr. Griesmer, is connected with Eastern Airlines and flies to Miami every five days. On his last trip, he tried to buy a copy of "The Tales of a Wayside Inn" in that famous resort. Book dealers were apologetic. They could send for a copy; they would write the publishers. But, Mr. Griesmer wanted the poems in a hurry. He went to the local library. There the librarian found an old edition. "It was interesting", said Mr. Griesmer, "because it was printed before Mr. Ford took over the Inn and the illustrations were unusual. For instance, the oak trees were pictured and some of the surrounding country". Evidently Mr. Griesmer wanted to absorb some of the atmosphere surrounding his new home while away from home!

Friday, April 4th Pleasant

With spring comes the beginning of colorful weddings and dinner parties. Today the Inn welcomed Miss Priscilla Stockwell of Grafton, Massachusetts. The young couple exchanged vows at the

Friday, April 4, 1947 (continued)

Martha - Mary Chapel and later enjoyed a wedding breakfast, served to them on the porch. The tables were gaily decorated with yellow jonquils and everything looked in keeping with the spring season.

Later in the day, a small engagement party was held on the porch.

The day was completed by a dinner party served to a party of 22 in the large dining room.

Saturday, April 5, 1947 Rain

We heard an amusing story which has no special connection with the Inn, but it was told on a recent evening by one of our guests.

She said that during the War when manual labor was scarce and it was next to impossible to get anyone to help with housework or gardening, a neighbor of hers volunteered to send a small boy to help her in her garden. The boy came - a frail little lad of eleven or twelve years - and started working. During the morning our guest approached him with the usual question as to how much he expected to receive for an hour's work. The reply came quickly, "Sixty cents if you don't boss me, ma'am, and seventy-five if you do!"

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

April 6 to 12, 1947

Sunday, April 6 Pleasant

A pleasant day with warm sunshine and temperatures high brought many gay Easter bonnets to the Inn. Underneath were grey heads, curly heads and tiny heads, all sizes,as more than one family party chose to spend their Easter day at this old Inn. Flowers, too, were abundant, both real and artificial.

The Inn glowed with a festive air and during the afternoon doors and windows were flung open to welcome warm breezes and still more guests. The center hall might well have been a miniature Fifth Avenue with guests going to and fro in the Easter Parade. Largest dinner party was that arranged by Mrs. Townsend of Newton for twenty guests.

Monday, April 7 Very Windy

Several of our "old-timers" came to lunch today - among them Mrs. Colby and her step-daughter Joan who is having vacation from school. Rev. Condit dropped in for a hasty lunch and was off again, much to our surprise, as he usually lingers as long as he can and takes a walk or sits under a tree and reads.

Five other ministers spent the night and they were in a real holiday mood, all their cares laid aside for the moment.

About forty students from Goshen, New York went through the house taking notes on everything of interest.

Tuesday, April 8 Warmer

Since early this morning, when news first came of Mr. Ford's passing away, his kindly spirit has been very close to all at the Inn, especially to those who have been here through the years and who have known, personally, their gracious host. His friendly hand shake will never be forgotten and his warm smile made each and everyone feel his genuine pleasure at being in Sudbury once more. Many times did he bend down to shake the hand of some tiny guest or stop to write his name in a copy of the Tales.

Once at the breakfast table, years ago, he called for a copy of Longfellow's poems. It was the poet he wished to honor by

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

April 6 to 12, 1947

Tuesday, April 8 (continued)

preserving the Inn, and just as Mr. Henry Ford has made Longfellow's spirit live here, so now will his own generous and thoughtful spirit be enshrined within the walls of this precious old house, forever and ever.

Wednesday, April 9

The death of Mr. Ford has saddened us all. There are no adequate words to express sincerely enough our sense of this loss. This morning at a simple and reverent service held in the Chapel, which seems so closely associated with him, some of the old hymns that Mr. Ford liked especially were sung. Excerpts from Mr. Ford's autobiography, "My Life and Work" were read by one of the boys and another boy closed the service with Tennyson's "Crossing the Bar".

"Twilight and evening bell
And after that, the dark.
And may there be no sadness of
farewell
When I embark.

Thursday, April 10 Pleasant

The day was long and those of us at the Inn performed our tasks with heavy hearts. The Chapel bell tolled at two-thirty just as the service at St. Paul's Cathedral in Detroit was being held for the seventh landlord of the Wayside Inn. Heads were bowed and -

"Round this old fashioned quaint abode
Deep silence reigned".

Friday, April 11 Pleasant

Early this evening, a party of six came into the bar room and announced themselves as the Gould party. They were elderly people, and said they had not visited the Inn for quite some time. However, one of the gentlemen in the party was enjoying a birthday and chose the Wayside Inn as a fitting place

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

April 6 to 12, 1947

Friday, April 11 (continued)

to celebrate. The three ladies wore gardenias and the gentlemen, white carnations. A birthday cake was served with the dessert and the party left in the best of spirits.

Saturday, April 12 Cloudy

Today the Inn prepared for a busy day, as there were four parties scheduled and this mild spring day was bound to bring guests from far and near.

Many of our frequent guests came today and among them the Bowkers and the Hawleys from Worcester.

A wedding breakfast was served at noon to a party of forty. The porch was made the setting for the event and looked quite springlike with the addition of pink and white snapdragons and pink carnations. An attractive wedding cake adorned the bride's table and was set off by two white tapers.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

April 13 to 19, 1947

Sunday, April 13 Pleasant

An early morning breakfast for eighty-four guests started this Sunday off with an unusual amount of activity. Tables were set in the large dining room with a beautiful bouquet of spring flowers adorning the head table. Here sat officers of the Catholic Women's Club of Hudson, the occasion being their annual Communion Breakfast.

Raymond Coulter, who has been our faithful houseman for eighteen years, is today marking the anniversary of his first day of work at the Wayside Inn. The 13th of April, eighteen years ago, was a lucky day for us.

Mr. and Mrs. Barker of Providence, Rhode Island returned today to celebrate their twenty-first wedding anniversary. Two weeks ago today, they were here to celebrate Mrs. Barker's birthday.

Monday, April 14 Warm and Sunny

Mr. and Mrs. Rhoades brought a house guest for luncheon today, a Mrs. Gould from Connecticut, who, we were told, is a very fine person, doing a wonderful work for people in trouble. She has a large place in the country and helps those who have lost their money or discouraged for any reason, to get on their feet again. They do their own work at the farm, although they come from all walks of life and in this wholesome community spirit, regain health and courage to go on.

Mrs. Rhoades, herself, seems very well now and Mr. Rhoades told us she has been clearing out the underbrush and "making vistas" through the trees on their lovely old place in Sudbury. Many birds have been coming to her feeding stations all winter and just lately she has twelve evening grosbeaks, a most unusual sight.

Mr. and Mrs. Haden, looking very contented and happy, came for dinner this evening. About a year ago on April 13th, they were married in the Martha - Mary Chapel.

Tuesday, April 15 Pleasant

Our kind and loyal friends, the Bowkers from Worcester, brought six pink roses on Saturday evening last in memory of Mr. Ford. These have been placed on the mantle in the Longfellow parlor.

Dr. John Van Schaick, long time Frater of the ministers' Retreat group, sent a beautiful letter in tribute to Mr. Ford. He says in part:

"What a blessed end to a great life! What a power he has been and is! His name will live".

Wednesday, April 16 Cold and Rain

This is the sort of weather that makes people enjoy the open fires and a cup of tea at the Inn. Not very good weather, however, for bicycling and yet a young man arrived after dark in a poncho with a pack on his back and asked where he might leave his bicycle. He was Max Arnold from Warren, Ohio, studying at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Having a few days vacation, he rented a bicycle and started out to see the country. He came to the Inn by way of Lexington and Concord.

After a good dinner, he started off to continue his journey, although it was dark and still raining, remarking, "This will be a grand place to bring my father and mother when I graduate in June"

Among other dinner guests was Mrs. Frances Burnes, bringing a letter of introduction from Bill Cash of the Boston Globe. She is one of the finest feature writers and reporters on the paper and is taking a motherly interest in Bill.

Thursday, April 17 Cold and Windy

The other evening, we learned from an overnight guest, Mr. Orville S. Poland, that William Jennings Bryan had been a near-guest of the Inn during a speaking campaign in 1920. He was stump-

Thursday, April 17 (Continued)

ing for the League of Nations and on a certain evening was to speak in Worcester. On the way from Boston to Worcester, Mr. Poland, who accompanied Mr. Bryan, had planned a stop-over at the Inn. Unfortunately they encountered a motor accident in Wayland. This delayed the party to such an extent that when the Inn was reached, there was only time for a hasty look around the outside. Thus,the Inn just missed the honor of entertaining one of America's best known political figures.

Friday, April 18 Pleasant

Dancing class was held this evening for the students at the Wayside Inn Boys School. Both classes came at the usual times and greeted us with the same cheery "Good evening".

This evening a few of the old timers came to watch the dancing. A quick glance around the ballroom and one could see Chester Fabian, who was once a member of the Wayside Inn Boys School. Bill Cash, who was also a student at the school and is now employed by the Boston Globe, was present. Also, Miss Priscilla Barnes, now physical education teacher in Marlboro, Massachusetts, was here. Miss Barnes had also been a member of the dancing class and seemed overjoyed at the opportunity of viewing it once again.

Saturday, April 19 Fair and Colder

On this bright Patriot's Day, the Inn welcomed many guests. Some were our regular friends, while still others were making their first visit to the Inn.

Several parties were scheduled. The first was a wedding party which was held on the porch. White snap dragons and pink carnations adorned each table. The sun shone in from all sides and made a colorful spring picture.

Early evening brought a group of fifteen to have dinner in the Old Kitchen.

The day was concluded by a dinner - dance held in the large dining room and ballroom for a group of one hundred and twenty guests. All partook of a turkey dinner, then proceeded to the ballroom, where dancing followed for the remainder of the evening.

THE WAYSIDE INN

April 20 to 26, 1947

DIARY

Sunday, April 20 — Snow and Sleet

This was not exactly the right kind of a day for a wedding as far as weather was concerned. But the bride, Miss Marianna Karas of Framingham, looked as fresh and pretty as a May morning as she prepared to go down the aisle of the Chapel on the arm of her father. Guests,who came under umbrellas in a very wet snow storm, numbered around one hundred and fifty. The ceremony was performed by a priest of the Greek Orthodox Church - the first wedding of its kind to be held in the Chapel.

Monday, April 21 — Snow

A wet sticky snow fell all day yesterday and continued most of today. However, this did not discourage the children, five bus loads of them, who came to see the Inn from Fall River. They came in groups of forty at intervals through the day. Mrs. Austill, who is sponsoring these groups, has arranged for them to come every day this week. She is very efficient and we shall have no trouble if all the groups are as well organized as those that came today. By the end of the week, about one thousand children from one city will have seen the Inn and Concord and Lexington which are also part of their schedule.

Tuesday, April 22 — Cold

England has been well represented among recent guests. Carol Raye, a well known English screen actress has married the nephew of one of our frequent guests, Mr. Rae W. Spencer and is living near Boston. She "goes over" once or twice a year to do a picture for a British film company.

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin P. Dean were recent honeymooners, who requested a room with a canopy bed. This was provided and was especially pleasing to Mrs. Dean who, before her marriage was Lady Joan Lawrence of Birmingham, England. When asked how she happened to be in America where she met her husband, she answered, "Oh, just recuperating from the War". She added that, after touring America, she decided to settle down in New England, which she found to be more like old England than any other part of the United States.

Tuesday, April 22 (Continued)

Rev. Cadigan explained that the embroidered crest on the pocket of his coat was the insignia of the Athletic Club of Jesus College, Cambridge, England. He won a fellowship from Amherst College in Massachusetts and went over to attend one of the oldest colleges in the Cambridge group. The College chapel was built in the twelvth century and Jesus College was founded in 1492. The crest represented a bright red cock over a gold English crown.

Wednesday, April 23 Pleasant - Cold

Mrs. Patterson, a luncheon guest, informed us that the hollowed out stone in the garden was a communal stone used by the Indians for grinding corn in large quantities. She has made a study of Indian relics and during the conversation, divulged the fact that she is in charge of the lovely old Gore Place in Waltham. She has been influential in rescuing it from being used for other purposes than a show place and just now is trying to keep it from being turned into G. I. barracks.

Much to our surprise, Mrs. Austill called up today to say that the groups were not able to get here at all this week, due to a bus drivers strike in Fall River.

Mrs. Ames of Wayland entertained her sewing circle with luncheon served on the Porch. She brought and arranged the flowers herself, but she was most enthusiastic and complimentary about everything else that was done for her.

In the evening a group of 36 sat around the fire in the old kitchen, reading poetry by candlelight. Half of the group had had dinner in the old dining room and the other half - as many as could be served there, had dinner in the Old Kitchen "for atmosphere".

Thursday, April 24 Cloudy

An old blue and white coverlet,which has been packed away in moth balls for years and years, was unwrapped the other day and found to be of some use. There were many worn spots and some moth

Thursday, April 24 (Continued)

eaten holes which made the spread unsuitable to use on a four poster bed. Mrs. Graham, one of our housekeepers and an able seamstress, quickly converted the good part of the old material into slip covers for the pillows and seat cover of the settle in the bar room. It has been much admired and is a pleasant change. Many guests have exclaimed over the old pattern. Tonight, one of our dinner guests was on her hands and knees, examining the hand looming and counting the number of rows in each square.

Friday, April 25 Rain

Early this morning when our faithful gardner, Mr. Davieau, began his chores about the Inn, he came upon two white geese taking their morning dip in "Josephine" Pond. These white geese have not been seen about the Inn for quite some time. Nevertheless, they were quite tame and unaware of the passers -by.

The realization that Spring is at last here is felt by every guest in the Inn today, for the house is filled with the fragrance of yellow jonquils and the ever spring-like forsythia.

Saturday, April 26 Clear and Cooler

The Inn has acquired a new friend, namely, Mrs. Robert Ames from Wayland, Massachusetts. In recent weeks, she and her sister, Mrs. Rogerson, have dined or brought friends to see the Inn, two or three times a week.

Mrs. Ames entertained her sewing circle at a luncheon last week and this week, gave a luncheon in the Old Kitchen for her aged mother and friends.

Bright spring flowers adorned the tables, as well as favors, choice candies and nuts.

Mrs. Ames is a generous and gracious lady, and we enjoy her immensely.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

April 27 to May 3, 1947

Sunday, April 27th — Cloudy

This is another cloudy day and one in a long series of dull days which have brought several April showers, cold winds and very few May flowers. However, we are cheered every morning by the batch of mail which comes from far and near. Words of appreciation and gratitude are like spots of sunshine. Here is a line from a Martha-Mary bride, "The memories of that precious day in our lives is a constant joy to us". Also, from a recent dinner guest who was escorted here by a handsome young technology student, is this sincere note, "You gave us a lovely time to remember" Mr. J. M. Hickerson, who brought his wife and daughter from New York for an overnight visit, expressed it this way in his "bread and butter" letter, "Thanks again and so much for the way you looked after us when we were at the Inn."

Monday, April 28th — Rain

Rev. and Mrs. Condit and three other ministers and their wives from Needham had luncheon today in the old dining room. It seemed to be a very congenial group and although of different denominations, there were no evidences of friction.

In the afternoon while waiting for tea to be served on the porch, Mr. Haynes and two ladies who were his guests, wandered through the rooms. It was amusing for us to hear Mr. Haynes' version of the story and the ladies, needless to say, were highly entertained.

Tuesday, April 29th — Partly Cloudy

These days are group days and the question on arrival is "How many groups today?" Today there were six groups. The first one arrived in time for luncheon. They were thirty newspaper-carrier boys from Hartford, Connecticut. Once every month they are entertained by the newspaper company, the Hartford Courant-News, which is the oldest newspaper for continuous publication in the United States. Next month the boys are going to a ball game.

In the afternoon, three large busses brought one hundred and fifty school children from Pawtucket, Rhode Island to our door. A little later, two more busses unloaded seventy-five high school students from Fitchburg, Massachusetts.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

April 27 to May 3, 1947

Wednesday, April 30th Rain

Again defying the rain, another group of seventeen little Brownies gathered at one table in the large dining room. Like all of these groups, they were very quiet and well-behaved and enjoyed their simple luncheon of hot soup, chicken a la King, milk, plain ice cream and cookies. After being told the story in the parlor, they ran eagerly into the bar room and bought post cards to take home.

Turning to more serious matters, we quote from a speech made in Washington last night by Henry Ford II, at the annual meeting of the United States Chamber of Commerce. He told his fellow businessmen that - "A key responsibility is ours - an obligation of American business management. The American people expect us to manage. They look to us for leadership. They are more interested in the results we achieve than in the details of our business and in the difficulties we have to overcome. And we must accept the task of promoting better understanding between the groups of people, who share the responsibility for achievements with us. I have little doubt that if our free American industry devotes its traditional enterprise and energy to meeting this obligation, the people of the United States, working together, can continue to set a pattern of life under human freedom for the whole world to follow. "

Thursday, May 1st Drizzle

Damp, cold days continue, but the spirits of one hundred and eighty-five women were not dampened by today's weather. They came gaily dressed and in happy mood for an outing in the country. The luncheon-meeting had been planned months ago for the Harvard Women's Club, tickets were sold and transportation provided and this was the day to come, rain or shine. Fires in the fireplaces added a note of warmth and cheer and bright spring flowers decorated the tables. The luncheon was served in the large dining room with a head table seating nine officers. After-luncheon speaker was John Nicholl Mark, who ended the meeting with fun and laughter by telling several very humorous "Scotch" stories.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

April 27 to May 3, 1947

Friday, May 2nd Rain

Although it continued to rain, the Inn welcomed thirty-five students from the Mary A. Burnham School in Northampton, Massachusetts. The girls arrived in the morning, made a tour of the grounds, and of the Inn, and later partook of a chicken pie luncheon served to them in the large dining room.

This is the second year that the Inn has entertained this group. The Mary Burnham School is a preparatory school for Smith College and those enrolled include girls from California, New York, New Jersey and China.

Evening brought another interesting party to the Inn. The large dining room was made the scene for a unique and interesting evening. A roast turkey dinner was served, after which a talented young man drew a delightful picture of a sunset on the water. The artist's only tools were a white canvas, chalk, and his fingers, which he skillfully used to blend the various colors. Then he dimmed the lights, and the picture produced many interesting changes.

Saturday, May 3rd Rain

Today the Inn was attr ctively decorated with yellow forsythia. Newly polished pewter and brass was used to set off the delicate color of the forsythia.

By noon, everything was in readiness for the luncheon guests and also for our overnight guests who were to be the parents of the Fay School Boys. Fay School, an exclusive preparatory school for St. Marks School was holding their annual spring festival and the Inn provided lodging for many of the parents, as well as treating the boys to a good wholesome dinner.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

May 4 to 10, 1947

Sunday, May 4th — Cloudy

Many years ago the Catholic Women's Club of Concord chose the Inn as the place to hold their Communion Breakfast. Every year since, they have made the same choice. Today was the annual event with tables set in the large dining room for about eighty members. Two priests accompanied the group and afterwards made speeches in the large ballroom.

The day was cloudy, but bright, yellow forsythia brightened the rooms and added a note of spring warmth.

Monday, May 5th — Rain

Another day of rain! The sun shone yesterday for a moment and blue sky could be seen between the clouds. Barbara Eaton on her way home came back to tell us there was "enough to make a Dutchman a pair of britches". We were disappointed today not to see blue skies.

Mrs. Austill brought another quiet and attentive group - this time from Plainfield, Massachusetts.

A luncheon guest called to a friend to look at the Hessian andirons. He said, "We have a pair with holes bored through the eyes so that the firelight makes them flicker."

Mr. LeSourd arrived with forty-seven ladies, part of a convention visiting Boston under the direction of Mrs. LeSourd. After luncheon they were guided about by Mr. Le Sourd who didn't seem to mind being the only man among so many women.

Tuesday, May 6th — Cloudy

Early this morning, three women from Wayland arrived with large bunches of pink flowering quince and all kinds of containers and vases in which to arrange them. These were placed on tables in the large dining room where at one o'clock about eighty-five ladies of the Wayland Women's Club gathered for a chicken

Tuesday, May 6th (Continued)

fricassee luncheon.

Following ice cream and cookies, the dessert course, a business meeting was held.

At about the same time in the small dining room, Mrs. Clayton S. Hicks headed a party of nineteen from the Congregational Church in Needham, Massachusetts.

In the evening, fourteen guests from near Worcester enjoyed dinner on the porch, followed by a short meeting.

Wednesday, May 7th Rain

Mr. Hamilton arrived this morning from Dearborn for a visit of several days.

We were glad to welcome Mrs. Purdy among many other friends and neighbors of the Sudbury Women's Club. After luncheon of chicken salad, the ladies went up to the ballroom, where they were entertained by singing of the Women's Club Chorus under the direction of Mrs. Emmett. After a short business meeting and the election of a new president, the club adjourned for another year. Mrs. Eaton, the out-going president, was very appreciative of everything,the delicious luncheon and especially the use of the ballroom.

In the mail recently, two letters have arrived concerning the weddings of two former Wayside Inn boys. Joseph McDonald, whom every one knows and likes, is to be married May 18th to Bunny Brigham, one of the girls he used to dance with at the regular Friday night dancing classes. The other letter is from Robert Mullen who did not graduate, but who says his fondest dream while overseas, was that he could be married at the Inn. We shall do our best to make this dream a reality.

Thursday, May 8th Pleasant

Late this afternoon, the tables on the porch were made ready for a party of thirty-two - a wedding anniversary dinner for Mr. and Mrs. Salvatori Palmer of Concord.

Thursday, May 8th (Continued)

Lavender stock and yellow snapdragons decorated each table and the sun, which has been in hiding for such a long time, shone brightly as if it, too, wanted to congratulate the happy couple.

Olive Floyd, the author who wrote "Doctora in Mexico" and who is now writing a biography, was a dinner guest last evening. She spoke of "Doctora in Mexico" as being adapted for the radio. It was given on the "Cavalcade of America" program with Irene Dunn as the leading lady.

Friday, May 9th — Fair and Cool

An interesting foursome came to the Inn today. They were a Major and his wife, along with two Chinese people, who we later found out, were both Majors in the Chinese army. The Chinese Major and his wife are in this country for the express purpose of studying American hospital methods and later to return to Shanghi, China and set up their own hospital.

An elderly gentleman stepped cautiously into the bar room, admired everything around him and exclaimed, "I read about this Inn sixty years ago when I was a boy in England. It has always been my wish to pay a visit someday to the Wayside Inn. My dreams have at last been fulfilled."

Saturday, May 10th — Pleasant

A deluge of parties, weddings and regular guests kept everyone at the Inn busy from morning until night.

Early in the afternoon the Martha - Mary Chapel was made the setting for a colorful spring wedding and at the same time the Inn entertained two groups at luncheon. The first was the Mary A. Burnham School from Northampton, Massachusetts and the second group of eighteen was conducted by our frequent guest, Mrs. LeSourd.

In the evening, the Inn welcomed Mrs. John Garrison from Lincoln, Massachusetts - and her party of a hundred and forty. A roast turkey dinner was served in the large dining room, after which the party adjourned to the large ball-room, where they enjoyed square dancing for the remainder of the evening.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

June 8 to 14, 1947

Sunday, June 8th — Pleasant

The Chapin family journeyed over from Springfield to have dinner here today and to bring their family of twenty together. There were old Chapins and Chapins in high chairs, and, of course, several of middle age. They filled a large corner of the dining room with their one long table.

Monday, June 9th — Warm

Today was very much like other week-days with the usual school groups to be shown through the house, after which they rush out for a picnic lunch up by the Mill.

The Gray Line with twenty or more is now a daily occurrence and many people come at night for dinner. They are coming later and staying longer these lovely summer evenings, when the daylight lasts until almost eight o'clock.

Tuesday, June 10th — Pleasant

The Clinton Rotary Club gave a dinner this evening for Clinton High School honor students. They honored about thirty boys and girls and provided a nice evening for them in the large dining room. Dinner was followed by speeches and entertainment.

Mr. Alvin M. Owsley honored the Inn today by having luncheon here. He is an executive of Ball Brothers Company, the company which makes the well-known Ball jars for preserving. "We make almost anything in glass", explained Mr. Owsley, who comes from Muncie, Indiana, where the factory is located. Mr. Owsley stopped to admire some of the old glass on the shelf behind the Bar.

Wednesday, June 11th — Very Warm

A group of thirty-five women, calling themselves The Boston Tea Party, had luncheon today. They are evidently D.A. R.'s, judging from the badges many of them wore.

Fifty-six employees of the Liberty Mutual Insurance Company had dinner. They were all women, escorted by one man. He, however, ate his dinner with the bus drivers where he felt more at ease.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

May 11 - 17, 1947, incl.

Sunday, May 11, 1947 Very warm

Mother's Day proved to be a bright sunny warm day bringing many mothers to the Inn; old mothers and young mothers and many in-between mothers. Grandmothers came too and tiny tots. Family parties were numerous and the dining rooms were gay with flowers, a white flower meaning that the wearer's mother is no longer living; a colored flower which the more fortunate wore signifying that she is living.

Monday, May 12, 1947 Very warm

Sixteen members of the Bay View Reading Club of Milford, Massachusetts had luncheon followed by a short business meeting on the Porch this noon. The more seasonable springlike weather attracted many other guests to the Inn from as far away as Oklahoma, Seattle, Washington and Paris, France.

A group of about 95 men connected with the Equitable Life Insurance Company were luncheon guests also. The business meeting was held in the dining room where one of our old Bible boxes was used for the speaker's desk and the burl bowl from the old kitchen table served for collecting ballots.

Tuesday, May 13, 1947 Very warm

Four students from the Perkin's Institute for the Blind were dinner guests this evening, shedding a great deal of light in the house from their dark world. They were cheerful and smiling and full of enthusiasm as they heard about Longfellow and his association with the Wayside Inn. The teacher explained, "They are students of American Literature and their visit here is a life time treat."

Wednesday, May 14, 1947 Very cold

The day started out with overcast skies but cleared in the afternoon and it became very cold. The weather is more like fickle April than what one would expect in May. A little brown sparrow has been fluttering outside one of the kitchen

Wednesday, May 14, 1947 (continued)

windows all day. He evidently sees himself reflected in the glass and is trying to make the acquaintance of that other bird.

At one o'clock about 60 ladies from the North Congregational Church in Cambridge had luncheon served in the large dining room. Due to the backwardness of the season, spring flowers have not arrived but the tables looked very lovely with pale yellow candles in pewter candlesticks and paper jonquils in pewter bowls.

Thursday, May 15, 1947 Cloudy

A really beautiful letter of appreciation has come from Mildred Weeks Prince in charge of students from the Burnham School in Northampton who visited the Inn last week. She writes: "The 'teen ager' seldom puts his deepest feelings into words, but his actions speak for him. From a group of thoughtless, gay girls, 'crazy' to be off for a holiday (when they arrived in Sudbury) they settled down to considerable reflection and comment, questions and discussion on our afternoon trip. I knew they had been very much interested, for instead of singing they chose to talk quietly among themselves."

Friday, May 16, 1947 Pleasant

Recent Parties

Among our recent guests came Bill Cash with a group of sixteen of the Boys School Alumni. The boys enjoyed a turkey dinner served them in the large Dining Room, then adjourned to the Bar Room and paid their respects to Miss Fisher at the desk.

Mrs. Alden Reed from Worcester, Massachusetts brought a group of thirty ladies to visit the Inn and also enjoyed luncheon served on the porch.

Saturday, May 17, 1947 Cool

Putney, a school for young teen-agers in Vermont, put on an "art show" at the Inn today.

The young people arrived by truck and came merrily into the Inn with paintings, wood carvings, and musical instruments, ready and eager to begin the day's program.

The first event was a dance to be held on the green below the Chapel and included such dances as "Lady Walpole's Reel," "Monadnock Muddle", "The Arkansas Traveler" and "Waves of Tory".

A program of chamber music followed in the large Ball Room where the musicians rendered four selections. Among them, "Haydn's Nocturne" and "Bach's Fourth Brandenbery Concerto" for two flutes, violins and strings.

Afternoon Tea was served to about seventy-five guests and square dancing in the large Ball Room concluded the entertainment in the evening.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

May 18 to 24, 1947

Sunday, May 18, 1947 Cloudy and Rain

Becoming members of the Wayside Inn household for ten days or more, are Captain and Mrs. G. J. Barendse from The Hague, Holland. The Captain does most of the talking, because as he explains to everyone "The Madame, she does not speak English well". But "The Madame" has told us in piece-meal fashion of her experiences during the War when she was living under German occupation in her native Holland. Her son would go with rare family jewels and precious clothing to barter with the farmers for a peck of potatoes or a few vegetables. She nearly starved to death and had no word from her husband for six years. In the meantime, the Captain was in command of the troop ship "New Amsterdam" of the Holland -American Line and carried 300,000 of our boys safely across the ocean. The Barendse family are now united and happy. Only son Eric is a student at Harvard.

Monday, May 19, 1947 Cloudy

In spite of cloudy skies and a cold rain which fell most of the day, six bus loads of children were shown through the Inn. They came from New Bedford and today quite a few colored children were noticed among them. It seems as though every high school student in New Bedford must have seen the Inn by now. We hope they will grow up to be better citizens for having been here.

The birds are getting more and more noticeable. Every day we see some new flash of color or hear a different song. Orioles in orange and black, the scarlet tanager which is rather rare, a brilliant painted bunting, have been seen by different people. Mr. Coulter reported one day, "-a flock of yellow warblers as thick as dandelions on the grass".

Tuesday, May 20, 1947 Cloudy

In between school groups, party luncheons, regular transient guests and the usual sightseers, Captain Barendse is entertaining us with stories and anecdotes of his life as a sea captain.

Today he showed us his autograph book in which are signatures of many notables who have crossed the ocean with him. Queen Wilhelmina's name means more to the Captain than all the others, we

Tuesday, May 20 (Continued)

think. Many added a note of praise, such as this: "To our favorite skipper and most faithful friend". A message which reads "Splice the main brace" was sent to all ships by the British Admiralty when the Germans surrendered. Translated it means "Give a free drink to all the sailors"!

Wednesday, May 21, 1947 Cold - Rain

A group of thirty ladies from West Swanzey, New Hampshire, enjoyed luncheon here today. The reservation read, "Will cancel twenty-four hours in advance if rainy". Perhaps it wasn't raining in New Hampshire, because they arrived just the same although we have had cloudy skies and rain for days. They were planning a trip to Mr. Curtis' Garden in the Woods in Sudbury. The flowers were probably very lovely, but those who went must have found it very wet under foot.

In the evening a family of nine enjoyed their dinner in the old kitchen. One small boy, however, found the grown-up conversation uninteresting and wandered through the rooms between courses.

At the same time, the Teachers' Club of Sudbury and Wayland, sixty-five in all, had dinner in the large dining room, followed by a business meeting.

Thursday, May 22, 1947 Cloudy

A pleasant party was held on the porch this evening when twenty-three teachers from the Southboro schools celebrated the end of the school year with a turkey dinner. One of the group brought in a few flowers for table decorations and favors, made by the school children, added a party touch. Afterwards the teacher in charge asked a hostess to give a little talk on the history of the Inn.

Friday, May 23 Warm

Early evening of this lovely day brought a group of school children to the Inn, but unlike the many groups that have come for the express purpose of making a tour through the Inn and about the grounds, this group of seventh and eighth grade students came to dinner.

Friday, May 23, 1947 (Continued)

After listening attentively to the hostess, who told them the history of "The Wayside Inn", along with a few interesting incidents that took place here many years ago, the children adjourned to the porch, where they enjoyed a roast turkey dinner.

Saturday, May 24, 1947 Pleasant

Recent Events

The Inn became the scene of a recent wedding party held in the large dining room. The party of thirty guests was seated at one large table with the bride and groom-to-be at the center of the table. Six white tapers burned brightly on either side of the three apple blossom arrangements, and tiny white favors completed the perfect picture.

The following day, Miss Anderson and Captain Monk were married in the Martha-Mary Chapel. The scene of the wedding was again made more festive by the presence of many lovely apple blossoms.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

May 25 to May 31, 1947

Sunday, May 25th — Cloudy

The traffic in our front hall becomes very heavy about two o'clock on Sunday afternoon when men and women, young and old, are making their way towards the dining room or out of it! Today, two women in passing, tied up the traffic for quite a few minutes. The veil on one spring hat caught on the flowers of another milliner's creation as the two women passed. First a man tried with clumsy fingers to untangle the tangle, but it required the smaller, more agile fingers of several women guests to finally release the hats!

Mr. Barnes, a guest today, said he had been coming to the Inn for fifty years and added that he would like to take a count in the dining room by asking every one who had been coming here for twenty-five years to raise his hand. "I bet it would be interesting to see the number of hands", said Mr. Barnes.

Monday, May 26th — Fair and Warm

Besides the usual school groups of which there were four, the Wayside Inn Boys School came in a body to see and hear about the Inn. Many of them knew the story in part, but this was the first time they had all been taken through systematically and they were very attentive and keenly interested. Mr. Flaherty came too, to preserve order if necessary.

There were three parties during the day. At 12:30 o'clock, one hundred and thirty-four members of the National Savings and Loan League sat down to luncheon.

Dinner for eight was served in the old kitchen and a party of forty had dinner on the porch. One enthusiastic guest from Honolulu raved about the food in general and said she never would forget the Indian Pudding.

Tuesday, May 27th — Cold

The noonday meal was the most popular today when three pre-arranged parties came in for luncheon. First came ten guests with Mrs. C. G. Jacobs of Somerville. They were followed by twenty-eight ladies from Worcester, and the third group was from our own

Tuesday, May 27th (Continued)

town of Sudbury, fourteen friends of Mrs. Emins. This made a total of fifty-two in addition to those who just dropped in for a bite.

An adoring mother told a story about her small son who was a recent dinner guest at the Inn. "Mother, why don't we have as good things to eat at home?" asked the boy as he ended a bountiful turkey dinner with a dish of ice cream.

Wednesday, May 28th Fair and Cool

By means of the "Herald" and over the radio this morning, the public was notified of an event momentous to us, the closing of the Wayside Inn Boys School. We have known of this possibility for some time, but to see it in print was nevertheless somewhat of a shock. Everyone will miss the boys. They have endeared themselves to us with their singing and their laughter and their happy smiles as they went about their work. Wherever they go, whatever they do, we wish them the best of luck.

A brighter side to the picture was the opening of the Grist Mill on Monday. Mr. Perry has started grinding furiously to make up for lost time. He will be very popular in the days to come. And then the lambs have appeared in the field across from the Inn. They can be heard calling back and forth to their mothers who seem to be trying to comfort them in such strange surroundings.

Thursday, May 29th Very Warm

Many people are already traveling in preparation for the Memorial Day week-end. People from distant places are coming to cemeteries in this vicinity, while Bostonians are on their way to other parts of the State or even out of the State. This means that the Inn will feed and house hundreds of transient guests during the next three days.

Thursday, May 29th (Continued)

This evening Mrs. Asher entertained five girls from Wellesley College who, after completing their final examinations, wanted to celebrate at the Wayside Inn. "Their first choice of eating places", said Mrs. Asher, "was this old tavern".

Friday, May 30th Pleasant

A recent overnight guest, Miss Norma Cuthbert, proved to have an interesting occupation. She is employed by the Huntington Library in California, which is known the World over as being a small and exclusive library. Our guest, Miss Cuthbert, does cataloging at the library and is also an expert on manuscripts and autographs.

Saturday, May 31st Fair and Warm

Today's activites began with a colorful wedding breakfast in the old dining room. The tables were appropriately decorated with pink and white roses. The bride, who was Miss De Bairos, and her attendant, wore identical white suits with matching flower hats, and the bride looked as sweet and demure as a bride could look.

At noon, a wedding party of sixty enjoyed a luncheon served to them in the large dining room. The head table for twenty displayed a high white wedding cake as well as white tapers and many lovely pink and white roses.

At the close of the luncheon, the bride, Miss Allbee, cut her cake, then left on her wedding trip.

A wedding at the Martha-Mary Chapel this afternoon, was followed by a buffet tea at the Inn. Miss Pamela Foss, of Sudbury, wore traditional white satin, which was set off by her attendants' pastel green, yellow, and orchid gowns.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

June 1 to 7, 1947

Sunday, June 1st — Pleasant

Among the missing today was Mrs. William P. Crockett, a very old and dear friend of the Inn who passed away last week. By chance, we saw the notice of her death in the daily paper and our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Mr. Crockett. Both dined here very often on Sundays. One of the last times they were here, Mrs. Crockett seemed in very poor health, but her cheery smile brightened her face as usual. We shall miss her very much.

Monday, June 2nd — Fair and Warm

Mention has been made many times of Mr. and Mrs. Tustin. A year ago on May 13th, they were married at the Martha-Mary Chapel and this year they spent their first anniversary here. Last night they came again and Mr. Tustin, a noted clarinetist, can be heard practising in his room. His runs and trills make welcome music in the quieter moments of the Inn which are becoming rarer every day.

Glancing out of the window by chance this afternoon, five huge buses were seen drawn up by the roadside and in a moment the house was filled with Shriners on convention in Boston. Most of them wore their red fezes with long black tassels and some sparkled with insignia. They were all from California and thought their hurried tour through the rooms was all too short. Many were the expressions of regret when the bus drivers blew their horns for the "all aboard" signal.

Tuesday, June 3rd — Warmer

Mrs. Granger Brown, about fifty and pretty, sipped her morning coffee leisurely. She was dressed perfectly for the day; a non-crushable linen suit, a frilly blouse and a flowery hat. Her costume would "do" nicely for the windy June day and commencement events at St. Marks." "My boy and I are going to drive to Mexico this summer" - she chatted between sips - "and I thought it would be a perfect suit to wear. Picked it up on a rack at a sale - and just what I've wanted for years" At that moment we looked across the room from the Bar to see

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

June 1 - 7, 1947

Mrs. Brown scrubbing the front of the suit with her handkerchief - large brown spots could be seen - "How careless of me" sighed our guest. But she went right on, after a few more gentle attempts to eliminate the spots - sipping her coffee and dreaming of being perfectly dressed in Mexico.

Wednesday, June 4th Pleasant - very cool

Many old friends came today. Mr. Cameron from the Somerville Plant had luncheon. He is taking over some of Mr. Purdy's duties in his absence. Mr. and Mrs. Purdy have gone to Dearborn for a short visit.

Mrs. Paul Burrage of Weston had dinner with two friends and told us about a recent visit to Dearborn with the Farm and Garden Club. We were glad to hear indirectly news of Mrs. Ford.

Mr. and Mrs. Rhoades also came to dinner and begged us to come and see their place which is so lovely just now with its birds and flowers.

We were not acquainted with Miss Amelia Shapleigh but she proved a most interesting guest. She lives in Ole Bull's old home in West Lebanon, Maine. She told us bits of interest about the Mortimer Smith's whom she knows very well. Mr Smith has written a biography of Ole Bull now in its second Edition. Mrs. Smith is a granddaughter of the great violinist and the Smith's have named their daughter Olea.

Thursday, June 5th Partly Cloudy

School and Club groups numbering about thirty, are popular at this time of year when final meetings are being topped off with a luncheon or dinner. This past week the following groups have been here:

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

June 1 - 7, 1947

Worcester Baptist Church	- 15 guests
Brighton Congregational	- 35 guests
Holliston High School	- 38 guests
Cambridge Birthday Party	- 10 guests
Medical Librarians	- 30 guests
Walpole Church group	- 45 guests
Lecminster Woman's Club	- 28 guests
Food Technologists	- 75 guests

Friday, June 6th Pleasant

Two graduation dances were held recently at the Inn. The first being a Dinner Dance, arranged by the Framingham State Teachers College. One hundred and sixty-nine students and faculty members enjoyed a lobster newburgh dinner served in the large Dining Room. Most of the graduates wore crisp white evening gowns, while the faculty wore bright summer prints.

The graduating class of Notre Dame Academy recently held their annual reception in the large Ball Room of the Inn. This also was a colorful affair with many flowers and balloons serving as a background for the girls in their graduation dresses.

Saturday, June 7th Very Warm

Early morning brought several school groups to the Inn. Tours were conducted through the various rooms in the Inn, after which the children could be seen frolicking about from the Coach House to the Redstone School and back again to take one last look at the lambs. They are now in the pasture near the Mill. The Inn has welcomed a great many school children in the past few weeks - all are well mannered and polite as they step gingerly across the threshhold and into the Bar Room, eager to hear the story of this historic old Inn.

Wednesday, June 11th (Continued)

During a conversation with a sight-seer, the fact was revealed that he had just purchased a picture of the Wayside Inn. He was quite proud of it and brought it in to show to us. It was extremely well done in water colors by Silverkroh and dated 1864. It was interesting to note that the color of the Inn at that time was the same lovely dull rose it is now.

Thursday, June 12th Pleasant

The reader of the Diary may become somewhat bored at this time of year with parties; one party after another, it seems. And most of the groups are made up of local, Massachusetts people. Let's look at the register book, however, and find out where some of the party-less guests are coming from these days - Fort Worth, Texas; North Hollywood, California; Omaha, Nebraska; Rochester, Minnesota; Spokane, Washington; Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Honolulu, Hawaii; London, England; Springfield, Oregon; and Wichita, Kansas.

Friday, June 13th Pleasant

This sunny June day promised to be a busy one. Noon time brought a group of Swedish Singers for luncheon. Their group of two hundred ladies registered at the Hotel Bradford, then boarded the Gray Line Bus for a tour through Concord and Lexington and our historic Inn.

In the evening, the ladies enjoyed a concert and ball in the Hotel Bradford ballroom.

The following evening was devoted to a concert at the Boston Opera House, with the Lund University Singers as guest artists.

Saturday, June 14th Pleasant

A luncheon guest stepped up to the desk one day and exclaimed, "What a quaint old kitchen you have here!" A few weeks later, she made a reservation for a dinner party of twelve to be served in the old kitchen this evening.

Attractive red and white geraniums adorned the table and blended perfectly with our red and white table cloth.

Saturday, June 14th (Continued)

We later learned that Mrs. Ronce's guest was the president-general of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. She was received in Boston by Governor Bradford, visited Cambridge, Lexington, Concord, "Old Ironsides" and presented awards to Commodore Howard R. Gary, U. S. Navy.

THE WAYSIDE INN

June 15 to 21, 1947

DIARY

Sunday, June 15, 1947 Rain

During the afternoon, three girls from Honolulu wandered through the house and finally came to the desk or old Bar to chat with Miss Swanson. Miss Swenson, by the way, is to be our temporary summer hostess and she spent a year in Hawaii during the war as a Red Cross hostess. Consequently, she found herself asking the Hawaiian girls if they knew so-and-so and if they had been to this place and that place. The girls are in the United States as exchange teachers. Miss Swanson is also a teacher, so a very good time was had by all.

Monday, June 16, 1947 Pleasant

Rev. Thornberg and about twenty other ministers and their wives were served luncheon today at noon. In the middle of the morning they began to arrive, the ladies to hold a meeting in the small ballroom, and the men in the old kitchen. When the usual school groups started to go through the house, the ministers retired to the Parlor, but were soon forced to leave there when the children collected in the doorways. The men were good-natured, however, and finished their business meeting on the lawn. Loud applause was heard at one time through the window and upon looking out we saw a hound dog, which has been visiting us the last few days, sitting up with his ears cocked, a pleased expression on his face, surrounded by the ministers,all clapping. Someone had just finished a speech, but it looked to us as though the dog had spoken; he looked so self-satisfied.

Tuesday, June 17, 1947 Very pleasant

Being concerned with everything which relates to the poet Longfellow, we were pleased to learn recently, that the National Park Service will reconsider the proposal of Senator Brewster of Maine that Longfellow's birthplace be made a national shrine. Previously the National Park Service had rejected the proposal, claiming that Longfellow's birthplace is not suited in atmosphere to a national shrine and that there are other houses more intimately associated with his life. The house is certainly situated in a most unattractive part of Portland. Nevertheless, its present state of misuse and abuse should be remedied.

Wednesday, June 18, 1947 Cloudy

Five separate groups enjoyed the hospitality of the Inn today, but the two most outstanding ones were the Stiles wedding and a small birthday party for one of Dr. Etz's family.

Miss Stiles, a Sudbury girl, was married to Lawrence Tighe in the Martha - Mary Chapel. He is also of Sudbury, in fact, a graduate of the Southwest School. The bride wore a lovely gown of white satin with her mother's lace veil. Her only attendant, her sister, wore pale yellow chiffon and carried a bouquet of field daisies. After the ceremony, the guests, most of whom were from Sudbury, came back to the Inn where a buffet tea was served in the large ballroom. Mr. Haynes with his orchestra then proceeded to conduct several old-fashioned dances so familiar to all and very pretty to watch. After a waltz played especially for the bride and groom and a quick change of clothes, they departed for parts unknown amid showers of rice and confetti and the good wishes of all their friends.

Dr. Etz's party, more sedate, of course, had just as good a time and we are always glad to welcome him or any of the Fraters when they come during the Retreat or otherwise. Dr. Etz brought some excellent snapshots taken of the ministers in informal groups when they were here in February. Every likeness was good, but we had a little difficulty at first in figuring out who the men were with heavy beards. Then we realized they were the Fraters dressed up to look like some of the Concord Transcendentalists for the parts they took in the play written for them by Dr. Kapp.

Thursday, June 19, 1947 Pleasant

As a warm June sun settled down into the West and closed a long busy day, so the graduation exercises held this evening in the Martha - Mary Chapel brought to an end the Wayside Inn Boys School. But there will be a dawning, another day of sunshine when boys will be working again and receiving their educational opportunities from the Bay State Schools, Inc. Rev. Lyman Rutledge, member of the new ownership gave the graduation address and linked the old with the new by declaring that W.I.B.S. could now mean Wayside Inn - Bay State. Anyway, the school will continue - tonight's graduation was truly a Commencement.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

June 15 to 21, 1947

Friday, June 20, 1947 Rain

A teachers group from the Davis School in West Newton gave a luncheon this noon for a fellow - teacher who is to be married in August. The luncheon also honored a new principal and his wife.

Tonight a party of fifteen were served dinner in the old kitchen, the arrangements being made by Mrs. T. W. Harmer of Winchester.

Saturday, June 21, 1947 Very pleasant

The Congregational Church in South Sudbury provided the setting this afternoon for the wedding of Helen Eaton, a Wayside Inn girl who attended the Mary Lamb and Southwest Schools and also served for sometime as a Wayside Inn hostess. Helen married a local Fay boy and the church was filled with family and friends. During the ceremony, Miss Fisher sang two solos and Miss Staples was there among the guests who, after the ceremony, adjourned to the church parlor where congratulations were offered. The church was substituted for the Martha - Mary Chapel when Helen's guest list began to grow!

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

June 22 to 28, 1947

Sunday, June 22, 1947 Partly Cloudy

Miss MacKechnie, our attractive hostess from Marlborough and youngest on the hostess staff, is getting to be a flower arrangement expert and is receiving compliments right and left. In fact, a letter was received the last of May in appreciation of an apple blossom arrangement. The guest had noticed it and upon arriving home, took the time and pains to write a word of praise. In another letter received recently, a party guest added this paragraph:

"Everyone thought the table lovely and
the flower arrangement perfect."

Today Miss MacKechnie brought pink roses from her own garden to make into several beautiful bouquets.

Monday, June 23, 1947 Warm

Our little neighbors who live over the border in Framingham, Marcie and Edith Gross, together with their cousin Dorothy Hutchinson from Seattle, Washington, were entertained here today. Joan Colby, who now lives in the old Walker house, formerly a part of the estate, was another guest and Miss Staples was their hostess.

After playing a game in which Dorothy won the prize, the children went out to the porch, where they found sandwiches and tall glasses of delicious iced chocolate awaiting them. The Gross's great dane had to be put out several times and finally tied to a tree, where he spent the rest of the time, whimpering softly, until the children came out. When they appeared, he nearly knocked them over in his joy at seeing them again.

The first Tauck Tour of the season arrived for lunch and a tour of the Inn with seven passengers. All summer they will be coming twice a week and of course, the number will increase as time goes on.

Tuesday, June 24, 1947 Pleasant

The Ladies Entertainment Committee for the convention of Building Owners and Managers arranged to have one hundred and fifty ladies lunch at the Inn today after a sight-seeing tour of Lexington

Tuesday, June 24 (Continued)

and Concord. Mrs. Frank H. Davis from Detroit introduced herself and said she was staying over in Boston, after the convention, in order to attend the Noyes-McMath wedding, which is scheduled for the Martha - Mary Chapel next Monday afternoon.

Wednesday, June 25, 1947 Rain

The weather is what might be called "freakish" just now. Instead of the perfect days one would expect in June, we are having lots of rain, high winds and very cool nights. In fact, one of our elm trees lost a large limb today in a sudden gust of wind. However, lovely fireflies are here and can be seen sparkling at night in the white mist that hovers over the lower meadows and we know that the weather will get back to normal soon.

Remarks

Guest: When will the Inn close?
Hostess: The Inn is not closing.
Guest: Oh! I'm so relieved and delighted. I feel as though I had been given a present.

One Guest: (Looking over the books at the Bar)"Oh, I see Duncan Hines is still in operation!"
Another Guest:"Yes, we wouldn't be here today if it hadn't been for Duncan Hines."

Thursday, June 26, 1947 Pleasant

Mrs. Cartinhour, several times an overnight guest, is an ardent lover of animals, particularly of dogs. She came last evening, carrying in her bag a book by G. B. Stein - "The Ugly Dachshund", and she amused the hostess by telling about two dachshunds which belong to her mother. She said that whenever her mother goes out to visit friends, a taxi is called to take the dogs over to her daughter's home. Mrs. Cartinhour's description of the pampered dogs riding in a city cab was filled with humor and rare understanding of dogs and their behavior. She likes cats, too and very often carries a scrap from the dining table wrapped up in a paper napkin, just in case she sees or meets an undernourished cat!

Friday, June 27, 1947 Very Warm

A very warm evening was brightened considerably by the appearance of three appropriately dressed people. A father wore a gray summer suit, while mother and daughter wore crisp dotted swiss. Both mother and daughter wore identical corsages of pale pink roses, tied with a large pink bow.

The occasion for dinner at the Inn and the beautiful corsages was little "Miss Pride and Joy's" fifth birthday party. The party enjoyed dinner served to them on the porch and then made a hasty departure, in order to see the lambs before dark.

Saturday, June 28, 1947 Pleasant

Today the Inn welcomed many interesting guests, as well as holding three lavish parties.

The first was a wedding luncheon in the Old Kitchen for members of the immediate family. A white table cloth was spread. This was set off with white tapers and a filmy bouquet of Queen Anne's lace.

Our second wedding party of the day, following the service in the Chapel, was held in the small ballroom. Fifty guests offered congratulations to the bride, who was attractively dressed in a white suit with pale blue accessories.

Late afternoon a third bridal party began to gather in the large ballroom. A huge bride's cake, decorated with pink and white roses, adorned the buffet table, while pure white flowers of several varieties completed the picture.

WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Period June 29 - July 5

Sunday June 29 Very Warm

Miss Marjorie Peck of Marlboro was the last of the charming June brides to be married in the Martha - Mary Chapel. About 150 guests attended the ceremony which was held on a lovely setting of summer garden flowers and lighted candles.

[illegible]or Gordon brought a group of teachers belonging to the National Education Association for dinner. Since the forty women were from the far west they enjoyed not only seeing the Inn, but were greatly impressed by the antiquity of its furnishings, and listened attentively as the hostess gave them a description of the various points of interest. She did this in the old kitchen as the teachers assembled apart from the many regular Sunday guests who thronged through the house on this beautiful summer afternoon.

The soft velvety petals of the Salapaglossis have been admired by our visitors as they were used as table decorations in the dining room for the first time this season. We feel that Mr. Davieau truly has "the green finger" to raise such fragile blossoms in their many shades, including those of purple and burnt orange.

Wednesday July 2 Cool

Today is one of those perfect days with puffy white clouds floating in a clear blue sky and a cool fresh breeze blowing. The usual Gray Line bus arrived and about twenty-five people were taken care of without delay. Harold Mathaway, the driver and guide, is now a familiar figure and keeps everyone in a good humor with his funny stories, raking even the hostess laugh sometimes.

A group of dark-skinned people calling themselves Bobo Indians came to see the house. They are Harold, Muriel, and Lena Walden and now live in Detroit but make a visit every year to New England, the home of their ancestors.

Thursday July 3 Cooler

The intense heat of the past few days have been followed by soothing coolness.

The variety of tales our guests have told us to-day have been most interesting, for they have come from far and near, from near-by Concord, from far away California, from "away down South", from across the water from Brussels and London; and from Canada to the north of us. Indeed, our Canadian neighbors purchased five of the pictorial Chamberlain publications as gifts for their friends.

One gentleman who now lives in a near-by town told of the visits he made here more than thirty years ago when Mr. Lemon welcomed him. Later, in the evening another of our guests recalled the days of 1910 when she enjoyed the skating parties on the pond.

Friday July 4 Very warm

A n extremely warm day marked this July 4th, and although the Inn was prepared for an extra heavy day, only a moderate number appeared.

The weather kept many at the beaches, but most of our regular guests came in spite of the heat. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson from Worcester appeared bringing lovely red roses and small white daisies for the Inn. Dr. and Mrs. Bell greeted the hostesses with a cheery smile - along with kindly Mr. Manter, and our ever faithful guests the Hawleys.

Saturday July 5 Rain

The Inn saw a busy day after the 4th with many tourists, luncheon, and dinner guests.

A thunder storm climaxed the events of the day. Dinner guests lingered in the Bar Room, where they purchased and wrote post cards until the storm passed.

Guests having dinner were startled when the lights went out, but were pleasantly surprised when the Emergency Lights came on. These lights installed in the Old and New Dining Rooms and in the Hall were called upon for the first time, and worked magnificently.

Study 4

Study 3

Summary

WAYSIDE INN DIARY
Period July 6 - July 12

Sunday July 6 Very warm
Showers at night

In spite of the intense heat the Inn welcomed hundreds of sight - seers, children and elderly groups, family parties, and three bus tours. A group of nineteen came from New Haven, and were delighted with the atmosphere and hospitality of the Inn.

Miss Staples prepared two copies of the Howe Coat of Arms to be mailed to a descendant of the Howe family now living in occupied Germany. We surmised that this ancient work is to be copied by some German craftsman for Col. and Mrs. Howe.

Toward evening heavy showers and rumblings of thunder relieved the breathless air, and many more dinner parties arrived as a culmination fo the Fourth of July week-end activities.

Monday July 7 Warm

In a sudden thunderstorm yesterday, another limb of the large Ash by the side of the Inn was twisted off. Today the men have been sawing it free and will take it away in a truck.

The Colby's came this morning to have breakfast on the porch with some friends who have been spending several nights here.

The Tauck Tour brought about 28 people and the Gray Line its usual number.

Tuesday July 8 Partly cloudy

Betty Noyes is honeymooning in northern Michigan with her husband Francis McMath of Detroit after their Martha - Mary wedding which took place a week ago. Mrs. Noyes telephoned to say how lovely the wedding was and thanked us for making it perfect in every detail. Betty is an only child and will settle in Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Stone is having fun these days pushing around a new kind of vacuum cleaner called an "Electrikbroom" which seems to work magic in picking up dust and dirt. Every now and then a guest will stop to ask how it works and Mrs. Stone will proudly demonstrate. She is particularly pleased with its light, compact form.

Wednesday July 9 Warm

The exceedingly warm and humid weather continues, relieved slightly by showers this afternoon.

A Mr. Kegami's name appeared on one of the mail slips today. He came with the Gray Line buses. It has been interesting to notice the number of Chinese people and Hawaiians as well as this Japanese American who came with today's tour.

The Gray Line buses also brought about sixty people belonging to the Safety Patrol Club.

Thursday July 10 Very hot

Enthusiasm of tourists groups was not dampened by the high humidity of this unusually hot day, as two large bus groups proved. People from all parts of the country visited with us, including one little old lady from England who was most interested in our Revolutionary pieces. As she put her finger on the point of the bayonet which hangs over the large fireplace in the Bar Room, she portly exclaimed, "So that's what they used!"

Miss McKechnie brought a great pail of fragrant white water lilies. In low pewter dishes, with one round perfect leaf as a background, the tables in the Old Dining Room gave a fresh cool appearance.

Friday July 11 Very warm

The "Old Fashioned Garden" is especially beautiful now, with flowers of many varieties in full bloom. Lovely pale pink roses first catch your eye as you walk beneath the archway at the garden's entrance.

A short distance on, and one may see blue delphinium, towering pink smokebush, petunias, and zinnias, - all combine to make a brilliant and beautiful picture.

Mr. Davieu also plants special flowers for use in the Inn. We think it is quite an accomplishment to keep so many flowers in fill bloom throughout the spring and summer months.

Saturday July 11 Warm and Humid

Early afternoon and the " Old Kitchen " was put in readiness for a small family Wedding Party. A white table cloth was spread, and was a - dorned with a snory white cake, set by two bouquets containing red rarbler roses and filmy baby's breath. At the conclusion of the wedding luncheon, the bridal party could be seen on the front doorstep of the Inn, and in the Longfellow Memorial Garden - where pictures of the bride and groom and their attendants were taken.

THE WAYSIDE INN DIARY

Week ending July 19, 1947

Sunday, July 13, 1947 Hot

In the coolness of the summer morning two ladies strolled about the Inn. We learned that Mrs. Segersten examined our pottery with interest since she is an artist in ceramics of no mean skill. Her companion was no less interested, being Helena Zelezna, a well known sculptress of Czechoslovakia.

Madame Zelezna has pieces in many of our large cities. Since many of her records were destroyed during the war, she does not know in what homes throughout America her treasures are to be found. She chatted with the hostesses for some time in rather fine English, and left for Shrewsbury to have luncheon.

In the afternoon the hostesses and guests were thrown into gales of laughter by Mr. George Killam, a stage comedian and ringer of Swiss bells, who was joining in a reunion of the Killam "tribe" at the Inn. Mr. Killam's very exact imitation of a small dog in the house caused much concern to the hostesses who dashed to entice the imaginary animal outside, of course to the great amusement of the other Killams.

Monday, July 14, 1947 Very Warm

There is a picture on the cover of the June issue of Home Acres entitled, Henry Ford, A Great American." Someone took this picture of Mr. Ford sitting in a field of wheat, leaning over, deep in thought. He is crushing a stalk of wheat in his hand and watching the grains as they fall one by one into his hat. An article by Edgar Guest (his life-long frind) bearing the heading "A Tribute to Henry Ford", appears on the first page of the magazine. Mr. Guest has put into the following words the thoughts which many of us would like to have been able to express: "Henry Ford will be missed. He will be missed in many places where kindness is still needed; he will be missed when courage to right a wrong and to fight injustice is required; he will be missed by all the creatures of the woods and fields who found in him a friend; and he will be missed by many a struggling youth to whom a word of hope and encouragement would mean so much. I can hear his voice whispering down the years to young dreamers everywhere:"It can be done! Follow your light; learn by study and by patient practice. Let neither sneer nor mockery daunt you. Believe in yourself - - - Success will surely follow."

Tuesday, July 15, 1947 Very Warm

We failed to get the name of a very charming afternoon guest who told us that she was the person who redecorated the famous Childs' restaurants. She knew Mr. Childs well and convinced him that his restaurants should be more home-like. "Who would want his guest to hang his hat on the wall near the dining table?" she asked her friend. He gave her the opportunity of clearing out cold, white tables and replacing them with more attractive ones, adding color and creating an atmosphere of warmth and comfort. Our guest was on her way to Maine and expressed appreciation of the Inn's furnishings. She added that the late Mr. Childs had been here and had thought of doing over an old Inn in a similar way. This he finally did in Bernardsville, New Jersey, calling his place "The Old Mill Tea House."

Wednesday, July 16, 1947 Very warm

Beside the Bixler Tour, the Cook's Tour and the Gray Line Tour we had a group of one hundred and thirty-nine Railroad men, members of a convention now meeting in Boston, for luncheon guests today.

Our good friend Dr. Huntley came to have luncheon and his accustomed walk through the fields and to make a reservation to stay here a few days next week.

Mrs. Caruso, our Sudbury neighbor, and her friend Mrs. Anderson strolled in for dinner. They are planning a trip to Italy and France in the fall and seemed delighted at the prospect.

Other dinner guests were five men, four of whom registered from Australia. They were familiar with the poem, "Mary had a little lamb" and rushed down to see the school before it got too dark.

Thursday, July 17, 1947 Very warm

The first of a group of convalescent Officers came to the Inn for dinner accompanied by a Red Cross worker. The group was greeted at the door and escorted to the porch, as the men are accustomed to "having chow" at an early hour. One man was seated in a

streamlined wheelchair, which rolled through the doors nicely, and accommodated him at the table perfectly.

After dinner, Miss Staples told the group the story of the Inn. Such was the interest of the group, that the driver, who paced impatiently outside, came in and joined the group, manifesting keen interest. We are all happy to find such unusual response, since this is the first of such ventures.

Friday, July 18, 1947 Pleasant

A hostess drew an elderly gentleman into conversation and thereby gathered an interesting story. The man, a mechanical draftsman by trade, explained that his name was Haines and that his very first job as a young man was with Mr. Ford. In a little shop in Detroit, he and Mr. Henry Ford worked side by side to assemble the first Ford car.

Mr. Haines later worked for the Packard Company, but admitted that he enjoyed the time spent with Mr. Ford more than anything throughout his entire life.

Saturday, July 19, 1947 Very Warm

The Martha-Mary Chapel was again the scene of a wedding which took place this evening at seven o'clock. The bride was a Miss Hutchinson from Roslindale and the groom a Mr. Dutcher. The guests numbered around seventy-five and after the ceremony adjourned to the large Ball Room for refreshments, the punch bowl being the most popular spot on this very warm mid-summer evening.

Unique among the features of the wedding was the departure of the couple in a taxi. The groom, having no automobile, asked one of the hostesses to arrange for their hurried exit from the Inn in a hired car. The car was chauffeured by an ex G. I. who dodged under the shower of confetti along with the bride and groom!

THE WAYSIDE INN

DAIRY

Week of July 20 - July 26

Sunday July 20 Much cooler

Mrs. Lincoln from Wellesley, who often comes for Sunday morning breakfast with others from the college, introduced us to her sister who has returned from Italy recently. She went both ways by plane and on the return trip left Italy Thursday noon and landed in Boston Friday noon. There is of course, a difference of seven hours in the time, but it seemed unbelievable particularly to the passenger. She said that she found the older people in Italy looking very old and feeble, while the young people are coming back to normal slowly. The art treasures have been saved, but none of the museums are open yet. Our guest also told of being in South America when a native, trying to lure sight - seeing passengers into his antiquated, nearly broken-down automobile, cried out : "Greta Garbo rode in this ! "

Monday July 21 Warm

Monday is usually a very busy day with the bus groups and many telephone calls from people who think we might not be open. So many places close on Mondays.

Dr. Huntley arrived for his three day rest and relaxation. He is a very friendly with the guests and we saw him having a chat at the luncheon table with two ladies, one of whom had a bunch of wild flowers in her hand, no doubt picked by the gentleman of the party.

Mrs. Davis, who has been a guest for over a week now, is another friendly soul. We have learned a few facts about her, and it seems she came to Sudbury about 30 years ago as a young bride. She lost her husband, a minister, in the flu epidemic two years later.

She still takes an interest in those people who were kind to her at that time and speaks of them affectionately as "the pillars of the church" .

Tuesday July 22 Very warm

These days are so full of a number of things we are " all as happy as kings " - talking, walking, helping guests from Idaho, California, the South, and Kalamazoo. Yes,it was the lady from Kalamazoo who wanted that recipe for Indian Pudding. And it was the dear little daughter of Dr. Quick who asked for the checkerboard. And the departing four from North Carolina who held up a thermos bottle to " please fill so we won't need to stop on this hot day " . So it goes, as the sweat goes rolling off our faces and our feet begin to ache. But - helpfulness, a kind word, a baby's smile, make us all " as happy as kings " !

Wednesday July 23 Very warm

One of the hostesses today received a lovely postal card with a picture of the old mill in Nantucket and signed by D. and J. Colby. She was admiring it during a quiet moment at the Bar when she happened to glance up and there were the Colby's smiling at her. They looked tanned and healthy and said they were very happy to come back to their little house on Peakham Road.

Another guest was a Mr. Cahill, who has a very interesting job playing the organ and arranging entertainments for patients and nurses at a nearby hospital. He played the Hammond Organ in Grover Cronin's store in Waltham for many years.

Mrs. Settle, as she did last year, again brought a group of music students from the Institute of Normal Methods now holding its summer session at La Salle College in Auburndale. They were most enthusiastic about their dinner, and although their schedule is a heavy one, they were planning to come again and bring their husbands.

Thursday July 24 Cool breezes

Bright and early this morning George Odishoo and Vernon Leffler with a Red Cross worker arrived to take pictures of the Inn. They are two of the convalescent officers from Cushing General Hospital who came the other evening for dinner. George enjoyed snapping unusual furniture arrangements grouped around the fireplaces and was not at all disturbed by posing Miss Swanson in modern dress demonstrating ancient utensils. After a pleasant morning, "Lefty" drove the group away in his new automobile which he completely controlled by hand while his useless legs hung helplessly - unknown to all observers. George beamed over his Wayside Inn film which he will develop and print himself.

Friday July 25 Pleasant

Another busy day with the Tauck Tours, the Gray Line, and many regular luncheons for guests. Among our guests this morning came a Mr. Castleman who seemed very enthusiastic about everything here.

When leaving Mr. Castleman stopped at the Desk to mail a postcard, and remarked, "This card is going to my twin brother who will be glad to hear that I have finally made a visit to the Wayside Inn." " You see," said Mr. Castleman, " I once edited the poems "Tales of a Wayside Inn" for the MacMillan Company years ago. Both my brothers and myself are teachers and have read and studied the poems in our classrooms many times.

Saturday July 26 Very warm

This morning a small group of business men from Boston held a meeting in the Old Ballroom of the Inn, after which they enjoyed luncheon served in the Large Dining Room.

In the evening a group of fifty students from Harvard University enjoyed a Dinner - Dance in the Large Dining Room and Ball Room. After dinner the students had a guided tour through the Inn, then adjorned to the Ball Room where square dancing was enjoyed for the remainder of the evening.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of July 27 - Aug. 2

Sunday July 27 Cool

The Inn was crowded with Sunday tourists and dinner guests. A pleasant breeze kept the day cool and comfortable, and when the waitresses brought forth a birthday cake all lighted with candles for the Keenan party, it was necessary to close doors and windows. The cake was a beautiful one, decorated with blue flowers and encircled with white candles in lacy holders. It looked too pretty to eat!

Monday July 28 Rain

A Mr. Howard B. Hall of Tuckahoe, New York has been spending a few days of rest and quiet here, conducting a little business on the side and incidentally looking up his ancestor who came from England and settled in Sudbury. He wanted to get in touch with a Sudbury Hall and Mr. John C. was called on the phone and came this evening. The two Halls had a long talk and came to the conclusion that they had a common ancestor way back in Shakespeare's time. Our house guest was very grateful to us for giving him the opportunity of meeting our Mr. Hall and thus enabling him to clear up several obscure points concerning his forebears.

We are noticing some very unusual names these days when we take orders for luncheon from the Gray Line. Such names as Stringfellow, Harshberger, Heinerdinger, Wynehymer, Hoos, Coellmer, and Swinnen sound queer to our New England ears, but are probably very common in the communities from which these people come.

The Wayside Inn

DIARY

Week of July 27 to August 2

Tuesday July 29 Very warm

Dinner at the Wayside Inn, seated at a table on the porch over - looking the sheep pasture and surrounding hills, gave one recent guest a real thrill on her eightieth birthday. She was celebrating her birthday away from home for the very first time in her life! She loved the Inn with its familiar atmosphere and utensils and remarked: " There is nothing like this in Syracuse. "

Another recent guest filled with enthusiasm after wandering through the rooms exclaimed, "Isn't this just beautiful ? I'd like to carry it home in a truck! "

Speaking of carrying things away, a dinner guest this evening was particularly envious of our pewter collection, and then ordering dinner said, "I'll take turkey and that pewter hung over there on the shelf! "

Wednesday July 30 Very hot

Miss Swanson, our recently acquired hostess, has left us unexpectedly to prepare herself for a more permanent job which will take her far away and for quite a long time. We are going to miss her jolly personality and keen sense of humor, but are glad to have Barbara Eaton back again in her place.

Little Jean Quick, eight-year old, has come with her father and mother to stay a day or so. She brought her doll along for company, Susie Q. by name, but wanted some other amusement this evening. She was absorbed for some time with our Stereoscope and its pictures of Boston, including the Wayside Inn, but finally she lost interest and came up to the Bar and asked if she might have some other game. She ran happily out to the lawn with the checkerboard and box of checkers and was allowed to play with her father out there until bedtime.

Mrs. McCurdy, a frequent guest for many years, came to have luncheon with her young son. Mr. McCurdy, who is connected with the Harvard Law School, has been in Germany for some time and his family are going over in a few weeks to join him. They will stay a year and are very much excited at the prospect. It will be quite an adventure in many ways.

The Wayside Inn

Diary

Week of July 27 to August 2

Thursday July 31 Very warm

This last day of July brought hundreds of people to the Inn, old and young, from near and far. Advance guard of the Dental Convention which opens next week in Boston, are the dentists with the long technical name which means maker of false teeth, although one man told us never to say false teeth. The modern term is "artificial" teeth. Some of the most expert makers and users of the artificial have been here and today their wives lunched here, over fifty in number, under the direction of Mrs. Vaughan, the wife of Dr. C. B. Vaughan of Boston. Handshakes at the desk are frequent as Dr. So-and-so from California meets Dr. So-and-so from Chicago.

Friday August 1 Pleasant

The first day of August brought unusually hot and humid weather, along with a deluge of tourists from all over the world. The Inn has welcomed many guests from New York and New Jersey this summer, but a glance at today's register and one could see the signatures of Mr. and Mrs. Josi Luis Hernandez from San Juan, Puerto Rica, as well as Dr. Paul Reiter, all the way from Copenhagen, Denmark.

The Old Dining Room in the Inn looks especially lovely today. Bright yellow flowers with the appropriate name " Golden Glo " adorn each table. A larger bouquet of these same flowers was used on the mantle, and was set off by several pieces of our newly polished pewter-ware.

The Wayside Inn

DIARY

Week ending August 2

Saturday August 2 Warm

The Old Ball Room was made the scene this evening for a small family wedding reception. Seventeen guests attended the buffet supper which consisted of individual chicken salads, potato chips, hot buttered rolls, assorted fancy cakes, ice cream, and coffee.

A centerpiece of red roses graced the table, white and pink flocks were used on the piano and mantle.

Later in the evening a group of twenty-five ladies enjoyed a Broiled Chicken Dinner served to them on the Porch. Our guests may have been school teachers, for Mary Lamb favors were used at each place, and the poem was recited a la Round Robin.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 3 - August 9, '47

Sunday August 3 Pleasant

Sunday crowds were larger than ever today, it seemed, as people flocked in and out of the front door in a constant stream. We happened to run across Mr. and Mrs. Horace Mann of Doyleston, Pennsylvania. Mr. Mann has for years been in charge of the Bucks County Historical Society, a museum well-known to collectors of antiques. He said he knew Mr. Ford, and that Mr. Ford had visited Doyleston several times. There used to be quite a famous old inn in the town, filled with old things.

Also we found in the crowd a man whose home is in the West Indies. He was here years ago and remembered especially the Mary Lamb School house.

In the meantime, one hundred and fifty guests came over from Framingham and vicinity to attend the wedding of Miss Barbara Shoup in the Martha - Mary Chapel. The ceremony was at four-thirty with a reception following at the bride's home.

Monday August 4 Warm

Mr. Alexander and his wife and two children registered from Philadelphia, and then wandered through the rooms looking at everything with great interest. He was a fine looking man, large and heavily built and walked with a slight limp. He asked to see our glassware and when he was shown our bottles and flip glasses he said, "You see I'm a glassware blower by trade but do mostly scientific work. Sometimes I make little bottles and animals in my spare time just for fun".

Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Wesley Huber of Wellesley came for lunch together with another minister and his wife. They enjoyed the Inn as always and at one time the dignified Dr. Huber was seen trying on the black beaver hat in the Washington Bedroom to the great amusement of his friends.

Tuesday August 5 Pleasant

Today reminded us of the "good old days" not only before the War- but before the advent of new highways which have, to a certain extent, taken a good deal of traffic away from the Inn. Before Route 9 was built, for instance - all traffic between Boston and Worcester passed the front door of the Inn.

On some summer days as many as a thousand people "dropped in". Today we had over five hundred including over one hundred guests in one luncheon group. They were the wives of men attending a convention in Boston of Lawn Bowling clubs.

Wednesday August 6 Hot

Mr. Williams of Holliston, a frequent visitor came today with a party of eight other men for luncheon. A high ranking police officer in an impressive uniform was with them. He was the escort for the Mayor of the town who was the guest of honor but not distinguishable from the others because of the plain business suit which he wore.

In the evening a group of four ministers and their wives had dinner. From some of their names, Lindberg, Erickson, Strom, it was judged they were of Swedish descent, and so it turned out. In thanking the hostess for their complimentary dinners one of them said: "We have just come back from a Good Will Tour in Sweden where we have been giving concerts. We are singing together for the last time in Worcester to- night before breaking up for good." The hostess said politely she would like to hear them, where upon without any fuss or unnecessary prelimin- aries they sang the old negro spiritual, "Keep in the Middle of the Road" They sang so well that that several guests were gathered in doorways listening with delight. Rev. Erickson said,"We thought it would be nice to sing for our supper!"

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 3 - August 9,'47

Thursday August 7 Pleasant

A wedding which was a little on the unusual side took place this afternoon in the Martha - Mary Chapel followed by a reception at the Inn. Unusual was the fact that the bride and her two attendants arrived early and, like in her own home, the bride supervised all the final arrangements such as placing the wedding cake, putting the flowers in vases, and setting the Buffet table. She came in a simple cotton frock, then changed to a well cut, smartly tailored navy blue dress and pinned thereon a corsage of white gardenias. Then she crowned her blond hair with a semi-wreath of gardenias. It was very effective on this warm August day. The guests, numbering about forty, came over from the Chapel to enjoy Chicken Salad and ice cream in the old Ball Room. The Wedding cake, made by S. S. Pierce Company, was a particularly beautiful one, it's icing being a little "off" the usual white with very pale pink roses adorning the one tier. The bride's name, by the way, was Shirley Kenny and she came way up from Beverly, Mass. to be married here.

Friday August 8 Warm

The Inn has seen many interesting summer guests this year, and today was no exception. Oddly dressed people, who from all appearances would be called "Quakers" were noticed by the hostesses. The women wore small starched white caps, and checked dresses with capes. The men wore no special costume or emblem, but their hair was very long, as well as their beards.

These people were not Quakers as we had expected, but "Dunkards" who claimed they were "German Baptists", and had traveled here from Indiana.

A nother interesting foursome came to dinner at the Inn this evening. Our guests traveled here from Bombay, India, and seemed charmed with the furnishings of the Inn. They requested a table on the porch so they could enjoy the scenery offered by our New England countryside.

The women looked charming in their unusual dress. One with full India print skirt and bright silk dress, and the other with a modest gray jersey dress and lavish silver jewelry.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 3 - August 9, '47

Saturday August 9 Cloudy

A tall stately gentleman with a dignified air about him, came to the Inn today for a short visit and"a cup of tea". A hostess, thinking he might have an interesting background, engaged him in conversation. The gentleman started his story by giving his name - Bancel La Farge. He is now a resident of New York, but went on to tell of his interesting occupation during the war years. Mr. La Farge was under the supervision of the War Department, but had charge of preserving the art collections in Europe.

a. Fuhrer's

The Fueher's headquarters were used to store the art treasures and it was up to Mr. La Farge to sort them over and keep only the most important pieces.

This project has since been turned over to the civilians, whose job it is to rebuild their museum, and places to keep these art treasures in their proper surroundings.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 10 - 16, 1947

Sunday, August 10, 1947 Very pleasant

As the sun was beginning to set on this Summer Sunday evening and just at the time when hostesses, waitresses, and cooks were beginning to wilt, several busses stopped in front of the house and deposited one hundred and twenty-six young ladies on our doorstep. They were of college age and it didn't take long to detect a decidedly Southern accent. The woman in charge gave a brief explanation of their presence here. She said that the girls were from a school in Tampa, Florida and had come to Connecticut for the Summer months. They work through the relatively cool New England summer days in the tobacco fields. This year they have been sowing tobacco. The place is Tarriffville, which these attractive young ladies left at six-thirty this morning, for a day's sight-seeing tour of Massachusetts.

Monday, August 11, 1947 Very warm

Quite an imposing name for a small group appeared on our reservation list today: The International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees and Moving Picture Employees and Moving Picture Operators. Mr. John Hauser of Loew's Poli Threatre in Worcester was the genial host for these sixteen epople. After luncheon, they enjoyed wandering through the rooms pointing out different articles of interest to each other and for the most part calling them by their correct names. Both men and women seemed "to know their antiques."

A Mr. and Mrs. George Warren Morse of Hamden, Connecticut signed the register today. It was the largest and most conspicuous handwriting on the page and after the name was printed in large letters, G G Grandson of David How.

Tuesday, August 12, 1947 Warm

The most recent addition to our collection of glass is a lovely old decanter that has been handed down in the Longfellow family for many generations. This decanter was presented by Walter A. Longfellow of North Scituate, Rhode Island. In a letter accompanying the piece Mr. Longfellow said that he was greatly interested in the Wayside Inn and had followed with

sincere interest the development of the famous hostelry." Mr. Longfellow, who was born in Yorkshire, England in 1651, ~~and~~ who later came to this country and settled in Newbury, Mass.

Wednesday, August 13, 1947 Very warm

We were very glad to welcome Mr. Hamilton of Dearborn today and he is planning to spend a few days with us. In the afternoon Mrs. Purdy came in carrying a beautiful white album in her hands. She told us she thought we would enjoy seeing the pictures and she was well rewarded by the many oh's and ah's of admiration. They were the pictures of Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton and their guests on the occasion of their 25th Wedding Anniversary. The first picture was the best of all in which the photographer had caught Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton smiling at each other in a very natural pose. Among the guests some familiar faces were recognized here and there,- the former Frances Bryant, Mr. Craig, and Mrs. Campsall. We almost felt as though we had been to the party when we finally closed the book.

Thursday, August 14, 1947 Very warm

For years, artists and lecturers, the sight-seers and hostesses, have been trying to name the color of the Wayside Inn. It has been our understanding at least someone told us the story once-upon-a-time, that the color of the exterior of the Inn was actually a mistake. The story is that Mr. Lemon, in the 1890's, called a painter to paint the house. The painter with his helpers arrived shortly after Mr. Lemon had left for a day of business in Boston. Nevertheless the painters went to work and splashed on what they thought was a very pretty color. Mr. Lemon, upon returning home, was somewhat shocked to find his beloved Inn blushing like a romantic school girl in a new dress of dusty pink! The color however, soon became a kind of land mark or perhaps we should say trademark. It is different, interesting, and unique. Each time a new coat is added, the dusty pink is matched. And the new coat wears like an old shoe. The Inn always looks very comfortable and happy in it.

We remember the time a rather well-known artist stepped off the boat in Boston from a European trip and rushed to the Inn for a painting of it. "You have no idea how pleased I am to find the Inn painted this truly delightful color", he said. Not infrequently the color is mentioned, but it is rarely named. Today however, we were somewhat amazed when, from out the crowd of tourists milling through the house, a woman exclaimed, "Oh, I'm so glad the Inn is painted such a beautiful shade of Cream of Tomato Soup!!"

Friday, August 15, 1947 Very warm

Remarks

A guest, after eating a hearty dinner, stopped to exclaim "I know why Longfellow came here, it was because that Indian Meal Pudding was so good."

A luncheon guest, when leaving the dining room, inquired of a hostess "May I ask the contents of those delicious patties I just ate?" "Why, those were fish cakes" replied the hostess. "Oh, Mercy Me" cried our guest, "There are three things in this world that I dont eat and they are all fish cakes!"

A tourist, when paying his admission fee remarked "my wife is a student, she kind of studies me, but I dont expect that will get her in free!"

Saturday, August 16, 1947 Warm and humid

A very attractive wedding took place this evening at the Martha-Mary Chapel, when Miss Nancy Tenny Bowman, from Marlboro, Mass. and Mr. Theodore Roger Thayer exchanged their marriage vows.

The candle light service was further glorified by the presence of many towering white gladioli, both at the altar and throughout the Chapel.

The bride was gowned in a filmy white net gown, fashioned with a bouffant skirt. Her veil which was made of the same material was caught to a small flowered head-dress.

Miss Bowman's six attendant-s wore frosty shades of raspberry and lime faille gowns, fashioned with a low neckline and bustled backs.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 10 - 16, 1947

The large Ball Room of the Inn was made the setting for the reception, with nearly two hundred friends and relatives in attendance.

Pale pink and white gladioli adorned the Buffet table, while a tall wedding cake, set off with four white tapers, compled the picture.

Pictures were taken of the bride and groom cutting the first piece of wedding cake after which they left on their wedding trip.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 17 - 23, 1947, inclusive

Sunday, August 17, 1947 Cool

Many of our guests today stopped in front of the small bay window in the old dining room to admire the flower arrangement. Some pink and white gladioli were "left over" from the Bowman wedding and their long full sprays were placed in a low bowl against the dark green woodwork. Miss MacKechnie, the decorator.

Mr. Eames and his daughter from Framingham, quite frequent Sunday dinner guests, smiled bravely today as Wayside Inn friends offered heartfelt sympathy. The third member of this Sunday trio, Mrs. Eames, passed away about two weeks ago.

A little Italian girl with note book and pencil attracted the attention of a hostess today, who learned that the child was collecting information for her "school work". Her deep brown eyes were full of enthusiasm and eagerness to learn. "Mummy, may we eat here sometime" she asked.

Monday, August 18, 1947 Warm

A very interesting family has come to spend a few days, Rev. and Mrs. Soper and their two wellbehaved children from Sarasota, Florida. Not the least of this family group are Mr. and Mrs. Shepherd from Swanee, Tennessee, the grandfather and grandmother. They are all Espiscopalians and brought up in the English tradition of church school life where, as Rev. Soper says, "town and Gown cannot mix." The children, therefore, are educated at home and Mrs. Soper has been teaching her boy and girl so that now they are ready for the 7th and 9th Grades.

Rev. Soper is a How descendant and both he and his wife are intensely interested in genealogy, so much so that they worked on the family tree while on their honeymoon. They have been shown the How Bible and other How Treasures and the children will be taken to Concord to round out their studies in History and Literature. Dedham is another point of interest as Mr. Soper has discovered he is also a descendant of the Fairbanks family.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 17 - 23, 1947, incl.

Our second wedding took place later in the afternoon, with about sixty guests in attendance. The wedding party left immediately after the ceremony for a reception held at the bride's home in Saxonville, Massachusetts.

Early evening and a candle light service took place at the Martha-Mary Chapel. The bride wore white taffeta and carried a prayer book with a single orchid marker.

The bride's only attendant wore egg shell taffeta and carried light green orchids.

The bride received her guests in the large Ball Room of the Inn where a Buffet lunch was served.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 17 - 23, 1947, inclusive

Tuesday, August 19, 1947 Sunny and warm

People still seem to be doing extensive traveling even though the thermometer registers in the 90's.

Today twenty-six states and three other countries were represented in our guest register.

Wednesday, August 20, 1947 Cool and Cloudy

The long spell of hot weather has broken at last and cool breezes are blowing today to the great relief of all New England. Mr. Prescott spent the day packing and came into the Inn to say goodbye to us. He is leaving for New Hampshire to take a new position there.

A former Wayside Inn Boys School teacher came to have dinner, the Rev. Norman Lavers, who taught the boys English and is now on the faculty of Gordon College in Boston.

Ann Bradshaw of South Sudbury, a former "Mary Lamber" a"Southwester" and just recently hostess at the Inn is being married at the Martha - Mary Chapel. She and her mother came to make plans this afternoon for the wedding which will take place early in October.

Thursday, August 21, 1947 Cool

Staying a day or two and attracting quite a lot of attention are the plump little Huson girls from Louisiana. They look alike, dress alike and are about the same size, but they are not twins. They are thirteen months apart, explained their mother in a Louisiana drawl which didn't sound a bit New England-ish. Yet Mrs. Huson declared that some where along the line she is related to Mary Sawyer of lamb and schoolhouse fame.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 17 - 23, 1947, inclusive

A guest became quite excited today when she saw a car in our parking space with a Hawaiian licence number and a sign "49th State". "The owner of that car must be some political person" she said "Because you know there are those who want to make Hawaii the 49th state of the union."

Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. King, who live in New Canaan, Connecticut and who come to the Inn at least two or three times a year for an overnight stay, were guests tonight on their way to Nova Scotia.

Friday, August 22, 1947 Warm

The Turner family from Verona, New Jersey came to spend a few days at the Inn. They have been coming to the Inn for many years and always with the same gay spirit and enthusiasm.

A beautiful post card view of Mt. Katahdin, in Maine, came to the Inn today for the "Wayside Inn Hostesses". It came from a former employee, and very good friend of everycne here. "Mazie Gould". Mazie is vacationing in Maine this summer and having a splendid time.

Saturday, August 23, 1947 Hot

Three weddings took place today at the Martha-Mary Chapel. The first being Miss Gertrude Neubauer from Worcester, Mass.

About one hundred guests attended the wedding at the Chapel and reception held in the large Ball Room of the Inn.

The bride was a petite little blond and looked charming in her long white ruffled dimity gown. Her attendants looked equally as nice in their pale blue dimity gowns, fashioned with an off the shoulder neck line.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 24 - 30, 1947, incl.

Sunday, August 24, 1947 Pleasant

Many teen agers and those of the age called the "pig-tail crowd" tag along with their parents during these Summer vacation days. "I came here years ago" said a woman the other day, and I would have been here since only for taking care of this" she added, pointing to a quiet little pig tail-er who stood on tip toe and peered over the Bar shelf. Then there was the family of four who came for luncheon the other day. The two teen-agers were as hungry as little bears and sat at the luncheon table as if at home. They passed things back and forth and asked if they could have some fresh sweet corn. A platter containing six golden ears was brought in. They ate it all. Most of the teen-agers, like the latter two, are brown as Indians and have probably been camping some where in Maine or New Hampshire. However, we remember two demure little girls who spent the night. They were from Chicago on a historical tour. "This one is mine" said the mother, introducing a rather plump, pink cheeked child - and this one is a playmate we have brought along for company" she explained, patting a tall, lean and lanky child on the shoulder. These young ladies were beyond the pig-tail stage. They were serious history students about to go into the eighth grade!

Monday, August 25, 1947 Very warm

We often wonder about the people who come to the Inn, what are their backgrounds and so forth. Sometimes we gather a few interesting facts and sometimes they remain mysteries like the five men who came to dinner recently. They asked the hostess at the Bar if she was the one who answered the phone when the reservation was made. Not knowing what was coming she said "yes" - but I could hardly hear you, every other word was blotted out!" He said with a smile - much to her relief, "Well, no wonder! Do you know that I was using a Mobile Radio Telephone and talking from the Quabbin Reservoir in Maine?" "You couldn't hear very well because something had gone wrong with the mechanism but we got it repaired later in the day". The waitress reported that these fine looking men all bowed their heads at the dinner table while one of them asked the blessing. We are still wondering about them. They may be making history for all we know.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 24 - 30, 1947, incl.

Grace before eating has become more and more frequent one waitress reports. She said once she was about to say the routine -"For the first course - we have - so and so" to find a group of Texas school teachers with bowed heads and one about to give thanks for the food. It seems as though people were beginning to realize how fortunate we are to have enough to eat.

Tuesday, August 26, 1947 Rain

Two little dolls who could walk and talk visited the Inn recently. They should have been dressed in bonnets and shawls for they lived their best days when such were in fashion.

In fact they used to dance in the old Ball Room of the Inn and arrived then with their escorts in elegant carriages. Today, they do walk and talk but they do not dance. One is 84 and the other 92 years of age. Like prim little china figures they sat in the Parlor while a son and his wife explained that they now live in Cambridge with a devoted "woman" who takes good care of them. While the dolls reached out a hand to bid a rather stiff, proper Good-bye, the son said he had brought them here "to break the monotony."

Wednesday, August 27, 1947 Cooler

The usual summer crowds come and go every day and we are quite accustomed to seeing the rooms filled with people all through the day, enjoying the antiques and asking questions about this and that. The Inn family although very much in the back ground is still remembered by those who have been able to get away for vacations. A card from Mazie from Presque Isle her former home in Maine says, "Having a fine time up here and it's really a change. See you all soon."

Mrs. Bennett has been keeping us informed of her whereabouts. For the first time in her life she was able to take a trip to California. Cards have been sent from beautiful Lake Tahoe and even from the not so beautiful Reno, Nevada.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 24 - 30, 1947, incl.

Thursday, August 28, 1947 Cloudy

"Behind the scenes" on these crowded days are a pile of letters. They come in piles every day from people who want reservations and from the letter heads we know pretty well what our would-be guests are doing. At least we know where they are! A typical day will bring letters from such resort places as Siasouset, Nantucket Island, Seal Cove, Maine, Ocean Point, Maine, Bethleham, New Hampshire, Boothbay Harbar, Maine and Woodstock, Vermont. Interspersed are the letters from folks on the other end of their vacations who write from Philadelphia, Milwaukee, Wisconsin and New York City. Most of them begin - "we will be on our way from such a place to such a place" and they end with "we do hope you can take care of us."

Friday, August 29, 1947 Pleasant

Some of the first signs of Autumn are beginning to appear; yellow goldenrod, red leaves and white Hydrangea bushes. There are several bright red trees along the shore of the Grist Mill pond and goldenrod is plentiful and in full bloom.

This week the Inn was decorated with the beautiful white blossoms from the Hydrangea bushes blended with a few pink zineas. Placed in a brown crockery bowl they made an interesting bouquet. Some were used on a mantle shelf, some framed by a window and other vases of this pink and white combination were placed on the individual dining room tables.

Saturday, August 30, 1947 Warm

With the many guests the Inn has seen this summer, it is sometimes difficult to remember a name or sometimes even a face if the guest makes a return visit. Today a tall gentleman with a ruddy complexion and a decided English accent came back again. He made quite the same entrance that he had made several months ago. With a short quickened step he came over the threshold and exclaimed "Hello, there! A jolly nice place you have here!" Every time he stops he purchases one of our new Letter Booklets to send to a friend in England.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 31st - September 6, 1947

Sunday, August 31, 1947 Pleasant

Twenty-five people assembled in the Martha-Mary Chapel this afternoon to witness one of the most simple wedding ceremonies ever held there. The bride was not gowned in proverbial while satin. No white canvas was laid for her to walk upon. The altar was not decorated with white lilies and the wedding march was not even played by Miss Fisher, who served as organist. Instead a program of Bach music was played during the entire Episcopal service. Therefore, the beauty and simplicity of the Chapel itself contributed a great deal towards making this, the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Richard S. Goodwin, an informal, yet very impressive event.

Monday, Sept. 1, 1947 Cold

All summer, by one means or another, we have been trying to endure the heat. Today in order to endure the cold it was necessary to light fires in the Bar room and Dining Room fire places. The thermometer had plunged to 40 degrees.

We have heard that a Mr. Swanson of Melrose is opening the Country Store today. Once more there will be swapping of yarns around the wood stove in winter and playing of checkers on the cracker barrel. We hope the familiar musty smell of old spices still lingers there, that whips and kerosene lanterns and strings of sleigh bells will be hanging on the walls and in the glass cases the penny candies will be on display, coltsfoot, old-fashioned's, licorice by the yard and best of all the pink and green and yellow hearts with "I Love You" inscribed thereon.

Tuesday, Sept. 2, 1947 Rain

Cloudy skies this morning forecast poor weather and sure enough by night fall we had had torrential rains and in some sections winds of hurricane force. Houses were blown down in Melrose, large limbs of trees were broken off, lightning struck in several places so that fires were started.

Tuesday, Sept. 2, 1947 (continued)

In the cities, gutters were flooded by the sudden downpour and cars were stalled in the middle of the streets. Here at the Inn the lights went out and except where the emergency lights shone in the darkness business had to be carried on by the feeble light of candles. The barroom was filled with refugees from the storm reminding us of the much more severe hurricane of 1938.

Among our guests were a Mr. and Mrs. Van Scoyoc, the name attracted our attention as it seemed almost a phonetic spelling for van Schaick with which we are so familiar. And so it turned out to be. Both names were originally Dutch but our Dr. van Schaick's people settled in New York, while this Mr. Van Scoyoc said his people came from Pennsylvania where they settled about two hundred years ago. He said the name had been spelled that way since the early days. When he travels on the trains he is often asked if he is related to John van Schaick, the "Poet"!

Wednesday, Sept. 3, 1947 Warm

Summer temperatures have come back again and the warm weather brought many old friends to the Inn. Mr. Williams of Holliston and a group of friends enjoyed his meal as usual and is planning an Old Kitchen Dinner soon, when it gets a little cooler. Mr. and Mrs. Stanwood came again, a quiet couple, but very appreciative. Mr. and Mrs. Fox and their children, who spent the night here in July, on their way north are now returning and wanted accommodations for tonight but much to their regret we were unable to take them. Comfortable quarters were found for them, however, at the Graycroft Cabins nearby and they were somewhat consoled by having dinner with us. Mr. Hobbs, who has been here many times in the past and whom we haven't seen for several years, came with Miss Lynch. They both looked a little saddened by the death of Miss Lynch's sister who used to come with them and keep them laughing all through dinner.

And last, but not least, just before he went into dinner, with Mrs. Purdy and two friends, we learned that this was Mr. Purdy's birthday. In great haste a cake was decorated with many candles and white cosmos from the garden and brought on to the Porch where Mr. Purdy was sitting. There were many people at nearby tables so the "Happy Birthday" song was rather subdued but heartfelt none the less.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 31, 1947 - September 6, 1947

Thursday, Sept. 4, 1947 Pleasant

Yesterday Mr. and Mrs. Addison Pratt of New York stopped for luncheon on their way to Marblehead. Mrs. Pratt is President of the New York branch of Farm and Garden and tried unsuccessfully to get in touch with Mrs. Paul Burrage in Weston. Mrs. Burrage, we learned later, was spending the day in Boston.

A newspaper clipping has been sent in which describes the work of a news-photographer named Leslie Jones. He has been taking news pictures for over thirty years and says that his favorite picture is the one of Mr. Ford, Mr. Edison, Mr. Firestone and Calvin Coolidge, signing the old Coolidge Sap bucket. It's just another picture, he says, but he likes it.

Friday, Sept. 5, 1947 Pleasant

A gentleman rushed into the Bar room recently waving some bills in his hand and a meal check. "Dear me!" he exclaimed, "I felt so much at home here, I went ten miles before I discovered this unpaid meal check in my pocket!" Then he added that he was really very glad to return because it had afforded him the opportunity of seeing the Grist Mill which he had missed the first time.

Guest:"It was so quiet here last night, I thought the World had stopped."
Friend: "It would be a mighty good thing if some of it would stop!"

Collecting postal cards is the hobby of a young lady from California who stopped here the other day and added a dozen more to her collection. She arranges them in albums according to state and country.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of August 31, 1947 - September 6, 1947

Saturday, September 6, 1947 Partly cloudy

Two weddings today. The first was that of Miss June Shattuck which took place at two o'clock this afternoon followed by a reception in the small Ball room. It might have been called a Gladioli wedding for dozens of "glads" were used; all white in the Chapel and those of pastel shades in the Ball room. Small vases of them were placed on the Buffet table while large bouquets decorated the mantles, piano and corners of the room. The bride dashed away in a soft green suit with a corsage of well, guess! White gladioli.

The second wedding was more elaborate with more people in attendance. About one hundred and twenty-five guests assembled at the Chapel at four o'clock to witness the wedding of Miss E. A. Olsen and Mr. Robert Hollbrook Cushman. This was followed by a reception in the large Ball room, where sandwiches, ice cream and coffee were served. This was supplemented by the bride's cake which was cut in the usual manner with the bride giving the groom the very first piece. Music was also enjoyed and the bride and groom obliged with a solo waltz danced to the tune of "I love you truly". They made their departure in the usual way too - under a shower of confettii.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of September 7 - 13, 1947

Sunday, September 7, 1947 Warm

We neglected to mention Mr. Ford's friend, George Matthew Adams, who paid the Inn a visit yesterday morning on his annual excursion to Maine. He stopped with Mrs. Adams at Breakfast time and after fortifying himself with muffins and coffee for the journey ahead, he looked at the Legros etching of Longfellow which he presented to Mr. Ford some years ago. He also spoke feelingly of Mr. Ford's passing and how much his friendship with Mr. Ford had meant to him.

The Longs, frequent Sunday dinner guests, have returned from a trip to Eastern Canada and today brought with them an illustrated folder of the hotels, rivers and mountains they visited, "We didn't miss one of them", said Mr. Long with a twinkle in his eye. He is a jolly, good-natured business man and full of fun. He got as much pleasure out of bringing the folder to us as we did in looking it over and imagining ourselves in Mr. Long's shoes, cruising down the St. Lawrence.

Monday, September 8, 1947 Cloudy

Today's mail brought a letter from Mrs. Snow of Worcester. She had spent the evening here with Mrs. Jenks, who is an authority on antiques and was a hostess here at one time, and Mr. Jenks also interested in old things. They noticed the coverlet on the settle in the Bar room and wondered what the name of the pattern could be. It is a very old handwoven bedspread in dark blue and white. Mr. Jenks proceeded to copy the intricate squares and circles for Mrs. Snow, who took the drawing home. She says in her letter, "I have found the coverlet pictured in the book "Historic Quilts" by Florence Peto. Unfortunately, no name is given the pattern. It is called simply, "The Ida Stillwell Coverlet." The following quotation is of interest:

"Jacobus Voorhees married the young widow of Isaac Denyse; his bride had been Ida Stillwell, born 1766, in the English colony of Gravesend, L. I. and it was she who wove the coverlet, blue and white, wool and flax, before her first marriage."

Mrs. Snow concludes her letter by saying:"our study of the fabric was part of a very enjoyable evening at the Inn."

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of September 7 - 13, 1947

Tuesday, September 9, 1947 Sunny and Warm

Coming out of the dining room, Harold, the bus driver, asked one of his passengers the time. This may not seem unusual, but the passenger was a young man from Montana, who lost the sight of his eyes in the last war. However, without hesitating, he took out his Braille watch and gave the correct time. The driver told us that Mr. Larson is planning to attend Perkins Institute in Watertown, Massachusetts and study piano tuning.

We are always pleased to have couples who were married in the Chapel return. Tonight Mr. and Mrs. McSweeney, who were married here five years ago today, came for dinner. The waitress, wanting to do something a little different for them, arranged flowers around a piece of cake and served it with their dessert.

Wednesday, September 10, 1947 Very Warm

It was rather a shock today to be brought back from the past and the historic atmosphere of the Inn by a young couple who came in the front door with the sound of soft music. They were carrying a portable radio and went through the rooms pausing now and then to look at an antique or read an old letter to the sound of now this program and now that.

The Gray Line is still coming with its two buses a day. We are told that when the sight-seeing season is over the buses go to different homes in the city and collect children who cant walk to the School for Crippled Children every day. The Gray Line folders and tickets are printed by the older boys at the school.

The Western Electric Company Magazine may soon carry an article on the Wayside Inn. Some men were here recently taking pictures and getting information. One of the men, a Mr. Bayley, noticed the clock in the Barroom and said he thought he must be a descendant of the maker whose name is on the face of the clock. It is spelled in an unusual way like his. Mr. Bayley said he knew Mr. W. W. Taylor and used to take trips with him hunting antiques for Mr. Ford.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of September 7 - 13, 1947

Thursday, September 11, 1947 Warm

A little before seven o'clock this evening, Professor Schell arrived with a cheery "Hello!" as a starter for his annual Waysider Meetings. He was followed by a man with projector and rolled up screen which meant that pictures were to be shown after dinner. Only ten sat at the long table in the old dining room but the number will increase with colder weather. This must be about the twentieth year for the Waysiders who, under Professor Shell's leadership, use the Inn once a month during the school year for a restful evening of good food and good talk. The talk is far above average and of course the food is too, but the talk is always informative and stimulating. Usually a distinquished guest is present who tells of his life and work or one of the men within the circle will chat about his travels in distant parts. Anyway it is always interesting and we often wish we could be a fly on the pine sheathed wall of the Old Kitchen when the Waysiders meet.

Friday, September 12, 1947 Very warm

Picked up in passing

Lena to Agnes: "Mrs Smith has a cracked plate and cannot eat her dinner."
Agnes: "My goodness, change the plate right away."
Lena: "Oh, I meant her false teeth!"

Visitor in the Old Kitchen: This room is what I call a wonderful memory."

Rev. Eason Cross: "When I saw the Martha-Mary Chapel lighted at night on the top of that little hill, it was like a beautiful out-door Altar."

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of September 7 - 13, 1947

Saturday, September 13, 1947 Very Warm

Only one wedding today! It was that of Miss Esther Perry from Marlboro and Mr. Harold W. Weaver. They were married in the early evening with nearly two hundred relatives and friends present to witness the ceremony. Many spoke of the beauty of the Chapel in the soft glow of candle light and later "coming down to earth", to use a phrase which is often applied to newly-weds, they spoke of the good sandwiches and coffee served at the Buffet supper.

Several of the young people waited a long time at the front entrance of the Inn to bid the pair a fond farewell. Suddenly an usher appeared and casually announced that the bride and groom had left "a long time ago!"

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of September 14 - 20, 1947, inclusive

Sunday, September 14, 1947 Pleasant

In the hustle and bustle of Sunday business, the real significance of this day of worship is apt to be overlooked. Yet what better opportunity for loving service to our fellow men than when this old Inn is filled with guests! Recently we talked with a guest on this very subject. She was Lora Marie Clint of Niagara Falls, New York, who, one day when working in her garden, seemed to be divinely inspired to write a poem. Since then she has written a great many poems and many have been repeated on her special radio program for shut-ins. She tries to reach people who cannot reach a regular church service. Her poems and words of inspiration are designed to meet their spiritual need. She left a verse with us in her own handwriting which is good to remember not only on Sunday, but every day. Her it is: -

The sunrise of tomorrow
And the beauty it will bring
Depends upon the afterglow
Of this day's coloring.

Monday, September 15, 1947 Warm

Several Chinese have been noticed among our visitors recently and the other evening six young people came to dinner. Their reservation was under the name of Mr. Tai. They signed the register in their artistic, very interesting but very unintellegible native handwriting. Although so far from home they seemed to be happy and carefree.

The opening today of the General Assembly of the United Nations at Lake Success, New York, brought a distinguished guest also from China. General Ho Ying Chin in resplendant uniform with many decorations signed our Special Register. After his name his aide wrote, Head of the Chinese Delegation to the Military Staff Committee under Security Council, Y. N.

Looking back through the pages of this book which has become almost priceless through the years we find one other Chinese signature under the date, January 1946 - Shuhsi Hsu, Advisor to the Chinese Foreign Office and Vice Chairman of the Inspection Group, U.N.O.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of September 14 - 20, 1947, inclusive

Tuesday, September 16, 1947 Pleasant

Massachusetts is well known for its schools and colleges and this week many are opening for the Fall term. This brings out-of-state parents to the Inn with their slightly bewildered offspring and the dining room is quite gay at meal time with bright sweaters and dashing neckties! The Wellesly freshman are seen with pale yellow "beanies" topping their fashinable hair-dos.

Wednesday, September 17, 1947 Cool

News of the hurricane which has just struck the Florida coast with millions of dollars worth of damage has filled our newspapers. The only effects here were extremely humid "hurricane weather" days for about a week. But last night the atmosphere cleared miraculously, the sun set in a blue and gold glory, and black trees began to stand out against one pale pink cloud as day-light faded. Then the tiny crescent moon appeared.

Mr. Coulter brought in today the September issue of Woman's Day Magazine, the outside cover of which carries a lovely picture of the Martha-Mary Chapel. On the editorial page under the title, Cover Talk, appears the following paragraph: "Of the six Martha-Mary Chapels built by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ford as a perpetual tribute to their mothers, Mary Ford and Martha Bryant, the chapel illustrated on this month's cover is considered the most dramatic. It is on the Wayside Inn estate at South Sudbury, Massachusetts, and is visible for miles to those who travel along the Boston Post Road."

Thursday, September 18, 1947 Warm

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Childs, who bear the name of the famous restaurant family, are here for two days and have told us about the inns which they own in New Jersey. One is located at Bernardsville and the other at Morristown. The Bernardsville inn is near an old mill and is called The Old Mill Inn, while the other is named The Old Mill Town House. Mr. Childs is a nephew of the restaurant pioneer.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of September 14-20, 1947, inclusive

Friday, September 19, 1947 Rain and cooler

A rainy day in Sudbury town, but the fires burned brightly at our "Wayside Inn" and a group of thirty-two ladies braved the storm in order to have luncheon at the Inn.

Luncheon was served on the porch, which was appropriately decorated with bright covered zinias and red salvia. A short business meeting was conducted, after which, the ladies enjoyed a guided tour through the Inn. The open fires and the rain against the window panes, all helped to lend enchantment and a richer atmosphere to our Inn, thus areating a warm and friendly feeling among our guests. The result being that the ladies lingered on and on, chatted beside the fireside, and just enjoyed themselves to the fullest measure.

Saturday, September 20, 1947 Chilly

One of our recent guests came rushing up to a hostess eager to tell the nature of her visit to the Inn. Her name - Mrs. Elizabeth Shepard Hunt. She came from Elyria, Ohio, to make her first visit to the Wayside Inn which she heard about from her sister.

"You see," Mrs. Hunt went on to tell, "we are "Howe descendants" and my sister did quite a bit of research on the Howe family. My sister was killed in an accident, but I am carrying on her work."

Mrs. Hunt spent quite some time studying the Howe geneology from our library and visiting the various rooms in the Inn.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of September 21st - 27th, 1947

Sunday, September 21, 1947 Partly Cloudy

A very pretty wedding luncheon was arranged in the large dining room at two o'clock this afternoon for a Miss Valmos of Hudson. Thirty of her friends were seated at one long table which was decorated with not only one, but two wedding cakes! The bride's mother explained that one cake was to be cut, while the other was for "show". Three low bowls of white gladiolii also gave a bridal touch to the table and several lighted tapers shed a warm glow over the happy couple.

In the evening another party of twenty-eight were served dinner on the porch. This was a group from the Y. W. C. A. in Worcester who call themselves the Co-wed Club.

Monday, September 22, 1947 Rain

When Mr. Muller, a house guest from New Jersey, was buying the book "Camera Impressions" by Samuel Chamberlain, he said "I know him-I'm an architect too. When I was traveling abroad some years ago, in almost every inn at which we stayed we would see a painting or a drawing done by Samuel Chamberlain. They had been left as payment for a meal or a night's lodging. That was in the days when he was a student with no money." Mr. Muller also said, "Let me tell you that this is one of the two cleanest places I have ever been in all my travels. The other is a home in Chestnut Hill belonging to the Christian Science Church."

Quite often descendants of the Howe family come and ask to look at the Howe genealogy, sometimes a Longfellow descendant comes or an Ole Bull or a Thomas Parsons and today a young boy asked if we had any data about Prof. Treadwell. He was given Dr. van Schaick's book which he carried over to the settle and, seated there with his father and mother and sister, he proceeded to read aloud softly the whole chapter about the Theologian. They were all oblivious to other guests passing through the room and listened intently so as not to miss a word. In the register it was discovered that this Treadwell family came from New Bedford, Massachusetts.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of September 21st - 27th, 1947

Tuesday, September 23, 1947 Cold

About thirty-five youngsters of 'teen age were on our doorstep early this morning to be shown the Inn. They were from the Horace Mann School in Newtonville under the guidance of a rather severe looking teacher. However, she kept her charges in perfect order and supplemented the hostess' talk with appropriate explanations and descriptions. "You see," she said "I was brought up as a child in old Deerfield, Massachusetts, so these things here are all very familiar to me".

This afternoon a pleasant lady from Pawling, New York, showed special interest in the Chapel and after asking a few questions, explained that the people of Pawling, including Governor Dewey and Lowell Thomas, want to restore their old meeting house on Quaker Hill. It is about one hundred and fifty years old. Someone suggested that the restoration follow the same plan as our Martha-Mary building. The lady examined both exterior and interior. Later she will draw a mental picture of our Chapel for the Pawling committee.

Wednesday, September 24, 1947 Cold - Cloudy

A clipping from the Sudbury Enterprise brought in today bears the heading: "Noted Persons are Guests at Wayside Inn" The article continues -"Since the opening of the 1947 season many notable persons have been guests at the Wayside Inn. From distant lands and from all parts of the United States travelers have come to Sudbury to visit the famous hostelry, enjoy the hospitality - and recall the atmosphere of the Colonial days which is so splendidly preserved there."

Mr. Loring Young of Weston, once prominent in the political field, came for lunch. He was very familiar with the Inn and has been here many times with Col. Nathaniel Bowditch when the selectmen of Middlesex County used to hold their meetings at the Inn.

This evening a group of thirty-six teachers from Northbridge had dinner. Due to an early frost our flowers are conspicuous by their absence but enough salvia was found to decorate the tables for this party. The cream colored blossoms of the hardy hydrangea made a pleasing contrast to the brilliant red salvia.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of September 21 - 27, 1947

Thursday, September 25, 1947 Cloudy

A jolly party of men dined in the old kitchen this evening at a table which stretched the entire length of the room. A cheery fire on the hearth brightened the dark pine panelling of the room and added a festive note to what otherwise might have been a drab, business-like dinner. Mr. Williams, the host, made it a gay affair, however, and was anxious to display some genuine New England hospitality to his Southern business associates. This was the place to do it. His guests were loud in their praise of place and - shall we say, platter! Twenty-one thick, juicy steaks were served to twenty-one hungry men.

Friday, September 26, 1947 Clear and cold

One of our overnight guests, namely Mrs. Dunicliffe, paused in the Bar Room to inquire for the gardener, Mr. Davieau. It seems Mrs. Dunicliffe visits the Inn at least once a year and always presents Mr. Davieau with a few of her choice flowers to be grown in the Inn garden.

A dinner guest, pleased with his dinner and the hospitality of the Wayside Inn engaged a hostess in conversation and told of an old home in Kingston, Massachusetts that he is restoring. "We call it the Millis House and Garden" and we specialize in good home cooked food - served much in the same manner as your Wayside Inn."

Saturday, September 27, 1947 Pleasant

Early morning and members of the Rice Family Reunion began to arrive. The Rice family have held their reunions at the Inn for several years and this year about one hundred guests attended. Meetings were held in the large Ball Room both morning and afternoon, with a luncheon at noon served to them in the large Dining Room.

Miss Marjorie Damon from New Bedford, a frequent guest at the Inn, brought fifteen for luncheon today. One table was set in the old Dining Room and the ladies enjoyed a Chicken Pie luncheon. After lunch the group enjoyed a guided tour through the Inn.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of September 28 - October 4, 1947

Sunday, September 28th, 1947 Pleasant

A local boy, Travis Crowley, was married early this afternoon and wanted a wedding dinner served at the Inn following the ceremony. Twenty-seven sat at one long table in the large dining room. Miss MacKechnie plucked a few white flowers which Jack Frost had left in the old garden, and arranged them in the center of the table. There was nothing of special interest about the party except that a wedding is always special. Sudbury people made it even more so.

Monday, September 29th, 1947 Clear and Cool

It would have delighted Revolutionary soldiers to see the Hessian andirons today covered with soot. Our chimneys were being cleaned and a canvas curtain had been hung over the fireplace to keep the dust from getting into the room but the poor little Hessians had to take it. This was an interesting process to watch. Two men on the roof drop a chain down the chimney, swaying it back and forth until the soot is knocked off. Mr. Coulter was stationed at the bar room fireplace trying to direct the men from below. As there are four flues in this great chimney it was difficult to strike the right one and directions had to be shouted back and forth. By the light of a burning paper the right flue was finally found. Mr. Coulter withdrew his head from the depths of the fireplace with the remark "It's like trying to talk to Mars!"

Tuesday, September 30th, 1947 Pleasant

A week ago today two elderly women stopped for lunch and told of their trip across the country from California. They were retired school teachers and their means of conveyance, an old Ford. At least they called it "old". It was a 1939 model. They were thrilled that the Ford had served them so well in bringing them to this historic spot. "We hope it will carry us back to California again" they said.

A guest from Arkansas with wide brimmed hat, reminding us of the proverbial Arkansas traveller, asked if we had an "honor" box here. When we answered in the negative, he said that he had seen one at Williamsburg. Travellers used to drop a penny into the box and take out a pipe full of tobacco, being honor bound not to take more than one pipe full!

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of September 28 - October 4, 1947

Wednesday, October 1st, 1947 Clear and Cool

A postal from Miss Swanson has been received showing the picture of an Alaskan Glacier. She was a hostess here for a few months this summer and left us in order to prepare for a year's stay in Juneau where she is teaching school. She says the town is"booming" and her trip out was most delightful, about seven days by train and three by boat.

Almost every Saturday night for years, Mr. and Mrs. E. Jones of Newton have been coming to dinner. Arriving at seven o'clock on the dot they would leave promptly at eight-thirty, just long enough for Mr. Jones to smoke his after dinner cigar. The news of his death at the age of eighty-three has just come to us and we are going to miss him and his punctual ways.

Mrs. Dixon, a Red Cross worker, has come to spend a few days with us while she lectures in nearby towns. She lived in Newburyport as a young girl and went to the same school as John Marquand, the author. As a boy he was very tall and lanky. She remembers seeing him loping across the fields so as not to be late for school. Having had no breakfast a kindly neighbor took pity on him and would hand him a cup custard and a spoon to eat it with as he ran by her house.

Thursday, October 2nd, 1947 Cloudy

Several guests of late have inquired for Mr. and Mrs. Lemon and have spoken of them fondly. Of course the Lemons were herein the Gibson girl days and in the days when a bicycle was the fashionable means of getting anywhere. Mr. Lemon, a guest told us today, was pleased to find the Inn listed with the American Wheelman's Association a club which made up tours and routes for bicycle enthusiasts. They published a book which showed the Inn on three different wheel routes. According to our guest, Mr. Lemon was overjoyed to have such recognition. The guest's name was Herbert M. Wood and he worked eighteen years for Mr. S. Herbert Howe, the landlord of the Inn, just previous to Mr. Lemon.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of September 28 - October 4, 1947

Friday, October 3rd, 1947 Pleasant

At noon thirty-eight ladies from Worcester partook of a Chicken Fricassee luncheon served on the Porch.

A short business meeting was conducted at the tables after lunch, each table being appropriately decorated with fall flowers and berries.

Among recent guests at the Inn were Mr. Alfred De Inlio, from Nome, Italy, the three Carew sisters from St. John's, Newfoundland and a Mrs. Hollis Watson who registered from Artesia, New Mexico.

Saturday, October 4th, 1947 Warm

We have been enjoying a wonderfully warm "Indian Summer" for the past few days, thus increasing the flow of week-end travelers. Although most of the sight-seeing buses have concluded their summer tours through New England, the Gray Line Tours continue to bring a few late travelers each day.

Today, a group of forty ladies traveled by bus from Providence, Rhode Island in order to have luncheon at the Inn. After luncheon which was served in the Old Dining Room, the group enjoyed a tour through the Inn and a visit to the Grist Mill and the Mary Lamb School.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of October 5th-11th, 1947

Sunday, October 5, 1947 Pleasant

One of our girls was married this afternoon in the Martha Mary Chapel. She was Ann Bradshaw of South Sudbury whose father owns the general store and is known the country side over. Ann attended both our Mary Lamb and Southwest Schools and later served in the Inn as a hostess. Ann does not have "red" hair, but it is a lovely shade of auburn and as a bride she was unusually beautiful in her white satin gown. Her veil belonged to her paternal grandmother and was of exquisite lace. The groom is also a Sudbury resident and they plan to reside here after a trip to Williamsburg, Virginia. Fortunately they have found a small house. The Martha-Mary Chapel was filled with relatives and friends for the four o'clock ceremony after which the guests were invited to a reception at the Bradshaw home. Both Miss Fisher and Miss Staples were among the fortunate guests.

Monday, October 6, 1947 Very warm

The greens of the summer foliage seem to have turned over night into the reds and yellows of autumn. A guest asked us if we had placed one particularly lovely maple tree in our field especially for the enjoyment of our guests. The setting was perfect and each leaf was about the same even shade of a gorgeous red.

The Langs, who are staying a few days, spoke with regret about the rustic bench which used to be across the road by the barn. When they came here on their honeymoon a few years ago they had carved their initials on it.

Prof. and Mrs. Kraatz, formerly of Czekoclovakia, came to lunch with some friends who told us that they were refugees and had both spent several years in concentration camps. Mrs. Kraatz said with a sad smile "I am so happy to be in your beautiful country."

Mr. Israel Sack, who is responsible for the purchase of so many of our finest antiques, came to lunch with a gentleman and his wife from Texas. He took great delight in showing his friends around and pointing out his favorites and telling the history of each piece.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of October 5th-11th, 1947

Thursday, October 9, 1947 Pleasant

Our most distinquished dinner guest this evening was not really a dinner guest because he didn't eat a dinner - and he didn't even sit at the dinner table. But he came at just dinner time with three hungry people. They happened to be a very young father and mother and grandmother. The fourth member of the party, who slept all through the dinner period, was a three weeks old son. There was a bit of doubt expressed and one or two anxious moments when the question arose as to what to do with baby. The problem was solved by putting the new arrival on a comfortable sofa in a private room. Banked with pillows and a soft blue satin blanket he slept soundly. Once in awhile there was a tiny murmur which alarmed the young mother. She would rush in, take a look, then rush back to the dinner table. But all ended well. Three hungry people were satisfied and baby was given something to remember all his life.

Friday, October 10, 1947 Fair and Warm

A frequent guest, Mrs. Le Sourd, held an Old Kitchen Dinner party this evening for seven guests. Sprays of colorful bittersweet adorned the table. This was further enhanced by candlelight and a cheerful fire which burned brightly on the hearth. Dr. Gross, our neighbor who lives in the Italian villa on the hill, entertained guests at dinner this evening. A Dr. Bennett, on his way back to Pennsylvania, paused in the Bar Room and explained that he travels through Massachusetts once a year and never fails to visit the Wayside Inn.

Saturday, October 11, 1947 Pleasant

A gentleman stepped up to the Bar and gave his name as Mr. Howe. The hostess replied "That is a familiar name to us here at the Inn." "Yes," the gentleman said "and I also notice you have a picture of Ole Bull in the Parlor across the hall.""You know", he went on to explain, "the class officer of my class at the University of Wisconsin was Storm Bull, Ole Bull's brother."

An elderly woman approached a hostess and exclaimed "You know the first piece of furniture that I purchased after my wedding, I bought here at the Wayside Inn from Mr. Lemon thirty years ago."

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of October 12 - 18, 1947, inclusive

Sunday, October 12, 1947 Pleasant

The combination of a long holiday week-end and warm sunny weather has lured many to the open road, there the foliage in its' Autumn brilliance and beauty is claiming and rightfully much admiration. Hardly a person came into the Inn today without speaking of the ideal weather and the golden shaded leaves. Some are golden, but there are copper colored ones too and plenty comparable to the rich lustre of bronze. But this was not supposed to be a discourse on charms of the Fall season. It was meant to be a report of a birthday party! Four dinner guests from Lowell, Massachusetts honored one of their number this evening by presenting him, during the dessert course, with a Birthday cake. The cake was not particularly unusual except that it was made in our own kitchen and decorated, not with Autumn leaves, but with pink roses, turned out daintily and skillfully by "Tiny" the chef.

Monday, October 13, 1947 Warm

After yesterday, with its five hundred dinners served not quite so many guests were expected today although it is a holiday. We were almost reaching that number, however, when darkness was approaching and people were more interested in getting home than eating.

A friendly rival has sprung up in the Country Store, we find Mr. Swanson is carrying it on in the traditional manner originated by Mr. Ford. People are always delighted to hear that it is open again and business is flourishing there.

It seems we have another friendly rival in the Stearn's Saw Mill on Dutton Road which sometimes grinds corn and which, according to a recent article in the Sunday Herald, is still running profitably after 270 years. The same water from Hop Book which runs our Grist Mill turns the wheel for the Saw Mill which, the owner says will take orders for anything made out of wood. All of the original lumber for the Wayside Inn was cut at this mill. Mr. Ford has been to see it many times and talked to Mr. Stearns by the edge of the old mill pond.

Tuesday, October 14, 1947 Warm

Going back to 1933 or thereabouts, one Mr. Harry Lang, came from New York to spend Thanksgiving at the Inn. Sitting on the Bar-room settle, he chanced to talk with another guest from Worcester. Sometime later, the Worcester friend introduced Mr. Lang to his present wife. Since then the Langs have made at least one pilgrimage per year to the Inn. This year's visit has just ended - "with genuine regret" to quote from Mr. Lang's note received this morning. Enclosed was a lovely verse which "oozed from my finger tips during my visit to Wayside". This is it:

"As the autumn sun at Wayside
Settled Slowly o'er the hills
And fairy colored foliage waved
It's wand of magic thrills
With zephered breaths of scented woods
Aplaying on our wills
The turmoiled world seemed far away
Serenity lured us to stay
At mellowed Wayside Inn."

Harry Lang
October 5th, 1947

Wednesday, October 15, 1947 Very warm

The weather continues to be unseasonably warm and the drought is serious in some parts of New England. This is very good for business, however, as people are still travelling around.

This evening a rather unusual event took place in the Chapel. Miss Spearin, who is to be married there on Sunday, was baptized in a very simple and informal ceremony attended by members of her wedding party who had come for the rehearsal. Rev. Crooke, the minister, with the aid of one of the pewter porringers from the Inn, used as the baptismal font, gave dignity to the occasion and made it impressive.

After the rehearsal the guests came back to the Inn where sandwiches and coffee were served in the old kitchen. Miss Spearin especially asked to have Marian Hawkins, one of the waitresses, to wait on the party. They had worked in the same office at one time.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of October 12 - 18, 1947, inclusive

Thursday, Oct. 16, 1947 Warm

Current chat

Two young ladies arriving for dinner the other evening, paused in the Bar room to look around. "Isn't this a howl?" asked one to the other. "Yes, it certainly is a sketch" was the up-to-date reply.

A very, very young lady from Rochester, New York was a recent luncheon guest with her Grandmother and Uncle. She was chatty. " I have a live cat and a live dog and do you want to know the cat's name?" she asked the hostess. When the hostess said "Why yes, of course" the young miss answered, "Gismo". When asked how one would spell Gismo, our little five year old replied, "Oh, you spell it the same as cat!" Uncle beamed and explained that his niece"always has an answer!"

Friday, October 17, 1947 Warm

Today's Guests

A luncheon guest, namely, Miss Matur explained this was her eighth visit to the Inn this summer. Miss Matur takes cash at the Bunker Hill Monument. The fee being ten cents per person. Our guest seemed pleased to see the picure of the "Burning of Charlestown" which hangs in the Bar Room of the Inn.

A tall blonde gentleman, equipped with movie camera and overnight case, came to the Inn today and announced himself as Forrest Allgeier, from Sacramento, California. Our guest started from California four months ago on a tour of the United States and a visit to the many friends that he made during his war days. Mr. Allgeier spent one day here at the Inn, and told us he enjoyed this part of the country more than any place on his trip thus far.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of October 12 - 18, 1947, inclusive

Saturday, October 18, 1947 Pleasant

It would be quite some task to keep in touch with every boy who attended the Wayside Inn Boys School but every now and then a boy will come in to see us or write us a ltter. This time it was a letter sent by Phillip Morgan, now living in Penacook, New Hampshire. The letter came in the form of a request. Namely, Mr. Henry Ford's Old-fashioned Dancing Book. It seems that Philip misses everyone at the Inn. Mr. Haynes, the dancing instructor and especially the Friday evening dancing class. However, he finds New Hampshire a pleasant place to live and enjoys going to school with girls for a change.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of October 19th - 25th, 1947, inclusive

Sunday, October 19, 1947 Pleasant

Our old friend Lawrence Dame appeared this afternoon in the thick of the Sunday crowd and threw a kind of bomb-shell into the quiet peacefulness of this old Inn. At least he made a lot of noise and attracted the crowd to the front door where he had parked a 1914 Model T touring car! The crowd gathered around it, admiring its old brass fittings, examining its tires and passing such remarks as "Isn't it a scream!" In the meantime, Mr. Dame, who sports a dark brown moustache befitting the period of his automobile, walked calmly from the door to the car with Miss Fisher and Miss Staples following. All three climbed - and they actually climbed - up to the leather cushioned seats. The crowd cheered and the car juggled. It chugged, chugged down the road. The pace was about twenty miles per hour. At the Country Store, Mr. Dame stopped to buy some penny candy, then turned around. Miss Fisher and Miss Staples were practically "blown to pieces" but felt that the 1914 era was quite gay!

Monday, October 20, 1947 Warm

Among our luncheon guests today were Rev. and Mrs. Knight of Framingham. A year or so ago they spent the night here to escape their many well-wishers at home. It was Mr. Knight's 75th birthday. Today, another anniversary, they were stealing away again and seemed like two children let out of school. Mr. Knight writes books and articles for newspapers in addition to his ministerial duties and is confined to his desk a great deal of time so this was a real lark for them both. They went for a walk after lunch and later in the day, Mrs. Knight, alone for the moment, was asked to help herself from a box of chocolate peppermint patties, when she took just one and was urged to take another for Mr. Knight, she said, "Oh, no, one is enough. I'll give Mr. Knight half of it. We share everything!"

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of October 19th - 25th, 1947, inclusive

Tuesday, October 21, 1947 Pleasant

Every Tuesday afternoon beginning today and continuing for the next six Tuesdays, we are to entertain, with a guided tour of the Inn, about twenty-five men who are representatives of the Paul Revere Insurance Company. Many are from distant places and come to Worcester once a year for a special course of lectures at the home office. Today they were enthusiastic, several saying "I wish I could come back and bring my wife with me!"

Early this morning, seventy-five students from South Lancaster Academy under the leadership of Professor Kellogg, stopped at the Inn for a brief visit on their way to Concord, Lexington and other historic places.

Wednesday, October 22, 1947 Warm

Our lovely Indian summer has turned into a serious drought and fire menace besides. The last rain of any consequence was on September 22nd. Serious fires have started in Maine and high winds and dry leaves on the ground add to the danger.

A lady called up to make a reservation for afternoon tea saying she was bringing an English War Bride who was getting a little homesick. Miss Goodard was the lady's name and she asked to have her tea promptly at three o'clock and to please have a high chair for the baby. When they arrived, Miss Goddard, a pleasant faced lady with white hair, was carrying the baby. His mother looked tired and asked if we didn't have a push cart to wheel her heavy baby while she went through the rooms. Miss Goddard solved the difficulty by holding the baby in her lap. The cradle in the Washington Bedroom was refused for fear the baby would cry at being left alone. The English girl looked quite happy and refreshed after tea and said, "That is the first open fire I have seen since I came to this country two years ago!"

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of October 19th - 25th, inclusive

Thursday, October 23, 1947 Pleasant

More poetic inspiration has come from the pen of Daniel J. O'Connor of Schnectady, New York, who was a recent overnight guest. During the evening Mr. O'Connor sat in front of the open fire in pensive mood. The next morning as a parting gift he presented us with the following lines:

"When all the world is filled with strife
I long to live another life
For one brief day, where famous men
Found much to guide a gifted pen.

The cares I know are briefly lost
As years untold are quickly crossed
To yesterdays, where one may spin
A day dream
At the Wayside Inn"

Daniel J. O'Connor
10/20/47

Friday, October 24, 1947 Warm

A man stepped up to the Bar and remarked to the hostess "I just have to tell someone this little story each time I come here." "You see, my name is Howe and the first time my wife and I visited your Inn we were greeted at the door by a young hostess, who asked if this was our first visit to the Inn. "Yes," answered my wife and my husband is a descendant of the "Squire". The startled hostess straightened up her back and said "But madam, the Squire never married."

Saturday, October 25, 1947 Pleasant

The Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Federation of Planning Boards was held at the Inn today. The day's program began in the large Ball Room at 11:00 A.M. with an open forum meeting for general discussion of planning board problems. Prof. Frederick J. Adams and Arther C. Comey served as a panel to assist in answering questions.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of October 19th - 25th, inclusive

Saturday, October 24, 1947 (continued)

Registration took place at twelve o'clock, followed by luncheon for one hundred guests in the large Dining Room.

Following the luncheon, our guests adjourned to the Ball Room again, where they heard Prof. G. Holmes Perkins from the School of Design at Harvard University, speak on "Planning Progress here and abroad".

Other topics for the afternoon included "Highways and Traffic""State Planning"and"Municipal Finance."

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of October 26 - November 1, 1947

Sunday, October 26, 1947 Warm

It was with real regret that we bid good-bye to Mrs. Ford, Mrs. Plantiff and Mrs. Thompson about noon time today. Their visit reminded us of the fact that it was twenty-four years ago when Mr. and Mrs. Ford first came to the Inn and that next year will be the twenty-fifth anniversary.

This Sunday was a relatively quiet one. Many are not venturing out on the highway due to the numerous forest fires and several roads have been officially closed to the public.

The old Country Store, being run now by Mr. Swanson, is a very busy place on Sunday afternoon. According to Mr. Swanson one can hardly move around the large room with its center stove between three and five o'clock. Cheeses and old time candy are the most popular items.

Monday, October 27, 1947 Warm

The drought continues, President Truman has declared the state of Maine to be a Disaster Area due to the forest fires which have been burning now for four or five days. Massachusetts also has had many fires but these, at the moment, are under control. The fire hazard is extreme, however, and everyone is urged to be most careful. Rain, our only hope, is not predicted for several days.

At one o'clock a group of fifty-five ladies had luncheon. They were the wives of Attorney Generals, who are having a convention in Boston. The ladies came from all over the country and seemed delighted with the Inn. Several, who were born in New England, spoke of their former homes with affection and many of the antiques were familiar to them.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles were luncheon guests also. Mr. Charles, who has been very ill, was allowed to drive today for the first time and he chose to come to the Inn. They were given their usual table on the porch. The Inn appeals to Mr. Charles' artistic sense and he is a painter of note.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of October 26 - November 1, 1947

Tuesday, October 28, 1947 Warm

Reservations are coming in thick and fast for Thanksgiving Dinner. People telephone and they write asking for tables which seat from two to fifteen guests. They specify the number and the time they wish to be served, then we take the name and address. In a letter received today from Mr. Albert S. Partridge, he expresses sentimental reasons for eating his turkey dinner here.

> "It may be of passing interest that I still have pleasant memories of my first dinner at the Inn in 1897. A dozen young men from Newton rode up on bicycles and a woman in the neighborhood had prepared the meal in her home, brought it to the Inn and served it in the small room off the Bar."

Albert S. Partridge
152 Oakleigh Road
Newton, Mass.

Wednesday, October 29, 1947 Rain

How welcome the rain is today! It is the first we have had for many weeks and it is putting a stop to the forest fires to the great relief of all New England.

We were very glad to welcome again Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton who arrived this morning at about nine o'clock. For their sake we hope the rain will not last too long.

This evening photographs were taken of Bishop Hall in informal poses in the parlor. An article about him is to appear in next Sunday's Globe. We knew Rev. Hall when he was minister of the Episcopal Church in Medford and now at the age of thirty-five he has just been made Bishop of the church in New Hampshire where he has been living for about two years. He and Mrs. Hall have been spending a few days of relaxation here before the Bishop takes up his new responsibilities.

Other house guests were Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, who registered from New York City. We were told that they had a house in Bar Harbor, Maine, which had not been destroyed in the fire. The Andersons were on their way to

Maine in order to open their house for the people who were made homeless by the fire which destroyed half the town.

Thursday, October 30, 1947 Rain

The rain is a welcome sight indeed and all day long it has pattered on the window panes and dripped from the eaves. We can hear it as we write this in the cozy warmth of the Bar room where a fire burns leisurely on the hearth and where our guests are reading or writing. It might be a day in mid-winter as far as the guests are concerned, for not many have been out and around today. Only a few stopped for luncheon or dinner. The overnight rooms are filled however. Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton are still here from Dearborn and Mr. and Mrs. Place, who are transforming an old barn into a house in Weston, are spending their non-working hours in the Treadwell room. Also staying overnight are Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Gould from Salem, Mass. and Miss Rose Doyle, the matron of an Episcopal Home near Rochester, New York.

Friday, October 31, 1947 Very cold

The Mary Lamb School children met at the Inn today for the first dancing class of the season, with Miss Fisher at the piano and Mr. Haynes conducting the various dances.

This was a new experience for the first graders, so for their first lesson they watched the older children and at the conclusion of the lesson learned to do a grand right and left.

This being Halloween, dinner guests this evening enjoyed the traditional cider and doughnuts, as well as a novelty salad in the form of a "Raggedy Ann" doll, made with a slice of apple, dotted with raisins for a face, and a shredded carrot for a top-knot.

(Raggedy)

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of October 26 - November 1, 1947

Saturday, November 1, 1947 Cloudy and Cold

A news item concerning our frequent guest, Mrs. Enrico Caruso, came to our attention today. It reads as follows:

"Mrs. Enrico Caruso and Miss Margaret Anderson have motored over to New York in order to be present at a ceremony, when a bust and a portrait of Enrico Caruso will be placed at the Metropolitan Opera House. Mrs. Caruso will be present because of a special request by Mrs. August Belmont, President of the Metropolitan Opera Guild, who when inviting her to the ceremony, stated that it made the Guild members very happy to have these souvenirs of the Great Tenor."

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of November 2 - 8, 1947, inclusive

Sunday, November 2, 1947 Pleasant

This beautiful day with the weather more nearly normal, crisp and cool, brought the usual Sunday crowds and many of our usual Sunday dinner guests. The Hawleys were at their table in the large dining room with faithful Lena as waitress. Mr. and Mrs. Littleton were seated in the old dining room, Mrs. Littleton looking very smart in a suit and hat which gave her decidedly that much discussed "new" look. Dr. and Mrs. Bell from Waltham, other regular Sunday guests, brought their two red-headed grandsons for a table on the porch. The grandsons have known the Inn since they were babies and now, being around ten years old, practically take possession of the Inn whenever they come. Without any ceremony whatsoever, they hurry in to sit at their accustomed table. On the way out, they pause to look at the "Funnies" in the Sunday paper, then run down the path. Mr. and Mrs. Wilcox, while comparatively recent additions to our Sunday list, are making a firm place for themselves not only in the dining room but in our hearts as well. Sunday would not be the same without them, or the Bells, or the Littletons or the Hawleys.

Monday, November 3, 1947 Cold

This morning a sparkling white frost covered the lawns and fields near the Inn. Yellow dandelions, however, are still blooming by the roadsides and seven wild geese have been seen in the early mornings, They eat the green grass which has sprung up in the ploughed meadow by the Inn. This grass attracted several deer last year and we are hoping they will come again. Mr. Estabrook saw one sail over two stone walls by the Gate House one night. The deer was being chased by two dogs but he easily outran them.

Many ducks are to be seen on the Lab Pond and the geese too, spend the day there. Perhaps they will stay all winter this year, in which case, according to the weather prophets, we shall have a mild winter. Screens have been removed from all the windows and so the fly season is over. But flies have been so scarce lately that if one does happen to appear it upsets the whole household until he is caught.

The Meeting Was

Held

Date of Minutes [illegible] Meeting

January, [illegible] by Def [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Meeting was held [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] and [illegible], Members [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] Meeting [illegible]. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of November 2 - 8, 1947, inclusive

Tuesday, November 4, 1947 Partly Cloudy

Just a year ago, Professor Irwin Schell, who is the leader of the Waysiders group, gave a dinner to honor the birthday of John R. Macomber. Mr. Macomber is not an official Waysider, but he lives near the Inn and is an old friend of the Schells. Tonight he had another birthday and Professor Schell was again the host, this time to a group of friends numbering thirty-two. The dinner was served on the porch, but the greater part of the evening was spent in the Old Kitchen, Professor Schell's favorite spot. There a fire burned on the hearth and highly polished apples in an old wooden bowl added a country flavor to the occasion. Mr. Macomber is not unused to the country however, for his "Raceland" estate in Framingham Centre is noted for its beautiful rural setting. The Schells and Macombers met many years ago when both were taking a trip to Europe.

Wednesday, November 5, 1947 Cloudy

Mrs. Calvin Smith, the mother-in-law of our neighbor on the Post Road, had luncheon today with seven other ladies. Afterwards the party adjourned to the younger Mrs. Calvin Smith's attractive little house to play cards.

A group of about thirty ladies from Somerville also came for lunch. They came on a bus and spent the day. After luncheon some sat in the bar room chatting by the fire while the more hardy ones walked to the Mill although the weather had turned cold and blustery. When darkness approached, they seemed loath to go.

In the evening, Mr. Cameron of Arlington entertained a group of teachers in the Old Kitchen. The guest of honor was retiring at the age of seventy after having taught Fourth Grade for fifty years. Tonight, it being her birthday as well, "Happy Birthday" was sung with gusto, followed by the second "How old are you? How old are you?" This aroused much laughter and merriment. It was far from being a sad occasion.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of November 2 - 8, 1947 inclusive

Friday, November 7, 1947 Pleasant

A petite young lady about twelve years of age came for afternoon tea today and when leaving, paused to explain that her name was "Louisa Mae Alcott". "You see," she went on to explain, "Louisa Alcott adopted Meg's son, John Pratt," therefore John's wife was this little girl's grandmother.

A group of seven people paid a visit to the Inn today. Futher study of their signatures proved that seven nationalities were represented in this one group.

They read as follows:

"John Smart - Rotifunk, Sierra Leone, Africa
Dr. Jacobs Alvara Albini, Ciudad Trijillo, Dominican Republic
Richard A. Cirling, Washington, D. C.
Percy Boland, Santa Cruz, Bolivia
S. Ssaerecinew, Finland
P. H. Chen, Shanghai, China
Florence Bean, England"

Saturday, November 8, 1947 Cold - Rainy

A small wedding reception was held this noon in the Old Dining Room of the Inn. Luncheon was enjoyed by the group of ten people, after which the bride cut her wedding cake, which had been attractively placed in the center of the table.

An Old Kitchen Dinner became the feature of this evening's activities, when a group of fifteen men, women and children traveled from Springfield, Massachusetts to enjoy the atmosphere of our Inn.

Our guests partook of a Roast Beef dinner, after which they gathered around the open fire as one member of the party read "The Tales of a Wayside Inn."

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of November 9th - 15th, 1947

Sunday, November 9, 1947 Partly Clouder - Colder

Not for a long time have our guests stayed indoors as they did today. The weather was not such as to entice them for walks to the school house and Mill. Consequently the old chairs in the Bar room and Kitchen were drawn nearer to the fireplaces and guests chatted or read the Sunday papers in home-like fashion. A lot of the guests today were of the young set, coming from the college foot ball games. Harvard played Princeton and the famous prep schools of Andover and Exeter met in rivalry at Exeter. A woman in gay sports clothes and without hat, approached the hostess and enthusiastically recounted her visit to the Inn several years ago. " It's just as nice as I remember it" she said. At the end of the conversation she modestly added "You see, my son is the leader of the Princeton band and that afforded me an opportunity to come to Boston and to your Inn again."

Monday, November 10, 1947 Pleasant

An interesting family from Wilton, Connecticut spent the week-end with us and left this morning. They were Mr. and Mrs. McNabb and Stephen and Sheila. Mr. McNabb is a commercial artist in New York now but when he was a younger man painted a mural which was exhibited at the Chicago Fair. He said there were 120 feet of canvas depicting the progress of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad from the earliest times up to the present. This required a great amount of research and Mr. McNabb knew history and was familiar with antiques. He wanted to have his children also become acquainted with the past and so brought them to see the Inn. Stephen and his father took a walk before breakfast and came back thrilled at having seen the wild geese over in the meadow.

Mr. R. McClelland Brady, formerly of Detroit, while waiting for luncheon today stood at the Bar writing a post card. He said, "This is going to Charlie King. He helped Mr. Ford with his first car. He also found the little house where that car was built long ago in Detroit. Mr. Ford then had it moved brick by brick to Greenfield Village."

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of November 9 - 15, 1947

Tuesday, November 11, 1947 Partly Cloudy

A man from the Associated Press dashed in this morning to take some pictures - and he literally dashed. He set up tripod and picture-taking lamps in a jiffy, there was the usual flash and it was all over. He snapped the Old Kitchen, Bar room, Parlor, Lafayette bedroom and Ball room. And speaking of pictures, another man dashed (and he dashed, too) in the front door on a recent day and without any preliminaries fairly shouted: " I have just taken eight shots of it!"

Wednesday, November 12, 1947 Rain - Wind - Snow

Only a few guests came today, due to a severe storm. By night a good old-fashioned snowfall had covered the ground and, clinging to every small twig, made fairyland out of the countryside. The quietness of the snow was a relief from the dashing rain of the morning and wind howling at ninety miles an hour (or so it seemed). It is early in the season for snow and the lilac bushes by the front door still have leaves. Their yellowish green made a lovely picture as the branches, heavy with snow, bent down across the Barroom windows.

A party of ten ladies from Belmont did venture out, however. They had to make several detours on the way because gutters were flooded to the depth of three feet in some places.

Mr. Pettigrew, a former employee and surveyor at one time of all the Inn property, came in from the storm to sit and chat by the fire. He has just finished surveying a piece of land in Needham, where a new radio station for WHDH, is to be built. Mr. Pettigrew added two more to our list of reservations for Thanksgiving.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of November 9 - 15, 1947, inclusive

Thursday, November 13, 1947 Pleasant

Wild geese are discriminating travellers too. Some Canadians chose the Inn several weeks ago as their stopping place before journeying further south. They evidently spotted the bright green field near the Adam Howe house and have been putting in some vitamins for reserve energy to help them in their long flight. We have expected any day to have them take off, not to return 'till Spring. But much to our surprise they were here as usual after yesterday's winterish storm. Passers-by are stopping to admire the flock and our nature lovers, including Miss Fisher and Mr. Coulter, are keeping us informed as to their whereabouts.

Friday, November 14, 1947 Cold

The children from the Mary Lamb School enjoyed their weekly dancing lesson this afternoon. Several Luncheon guests with small children also enjoyed watching the children dance and commented on the excellant manner in which the Mary Lamb pupils carried out the various dances.

Among our Dinner guests today came Mr. and Mrs. Bowker and Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, both couples coming from Worcester. Mr. Bowker, a usual Saturday night guest, changed his visit from Saturday to Friday night, because of the storm prediction. For the past few weeks, Mr. Robinson can be found most every night at the Inn and this evening both met and enjoyed dinner served to them in the Old Dining Room. After dinner, both adjourned to the Bar room for a chat, Mr. Bowker carrying his favorite paper "The Christian Science Monitor" and Mr. Robinson well fortified with plenty of tobacco and his pet pipe, a very potent "corn cob" model, which he himself admits is a test to anyone's endurance.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of November 9 - 15, 1947, inclusive

Saturday, November 15, 1947 Sunny and Cool

The McCarthy family, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. McCarthy and two small children, spent the night at the Inn. A girl, age two and a boy age four, made up this happy family. The McCarthys took a brisk walk to the Grist Mill before dinner and when returning the "Little Miss" in a red Parka hood appeared in the door and exclaimed "Well, here I am again!" The children were promptly tucked in bed while mother and dad ate dinner. Not a sound could be heard from either child, for they were well mannered, obedient children.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of November 16 - 22, 1947 inclusive

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Sunday, November 16, 1947 Cloudy

A unique event in Sudbury took place this morning when the first Retriever trials ever to be held in New England were run down near the Sudbury river. Several people came up from Long Island to take charge and Dick Piper, well known in Sudbury, was the local host. The Long Island people stayed overnight here, leaving their dogs in their cars and rushing off early this morning to start the trials. They were dressed in sheep-lined coats, knee breeches, high rubber boots (even the women) and all sorts of gay and sombre tweed jackets. Around the fireplace, after breakfast, they discussed the dogs, shackled ducks and the important time element. One of the men nearly forgot to take the trophies which he said he would award the winner, a whistle and a leash. Now as we write, we picture the trained dogs starting off at the sound of the pistol shot, scurrying into the water twenty or thirty yards to retrieve the shackled ducks and "like human beings" one of the men explained - "some of the dogs are quick, while others trail behind."

Monday, November 17, 1947 cold

A quiet day preceding the holiday gave Miss MacKechnie time to paint the containers which are to be the centre pieces for the tables on Thanksgiving Day. These are to be filled with greens from the woods nearby. Mr. Rorstrom has been bringing in samples of moss for her approval. Mr. Dinsmore, who is working at the Country Store, has told Mr. Rorstrom he can pick anything he likes on the Dinsmore land.

Plans are being made for the planting of more trees in front of the Chapel. Mr. Abel Cutting of Sudbury is moving the trees which will probably be maples.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of November 16th to 22nd,1947 inclusive.

Tuesday, November 18, 1947 Pleasant

Dr. John van Schoick, one of the oldest and most beloved of the Fraters and author of "Characters in Tales of a Wayside Inn" found shelter here last night from the crowded hotels of the city. Boston is over-run this week with shoe convention guests, so Dr. John explained that he was "driven" out here by force of circumstances. We dont care what brought him, we are only glad to see his tall, lanky figure pacing up and down the front walk or reclining in a corner of the settle. But it is pathetic to see our friend groping for a chair or bending low to read a book. He is nearly blind. The Inn, every inch of it, is familiar however and Dr. John knows his way around. He plodded upstairs to the Ole Bull room, pockets stuffed with MacIntosh apples and with a cherry "goodnight" announced that he would depart on an early bus without even a cup of coffee - only a "good old apple!"

Wednesday, November 19, 1947 Pleasant

Singing for the children has been started at the Redstone School. Many songs were sung today appropriate for Thanksgiving but the favorite was the one about the turkey who was not looking forward to the holiday with any pleasure. The children made the "Gobble, gobble, gobble" at the end of every verse sound very sad indeed.

The well-known artist, Stevan Douhanos was a house guest last night. Yesterday he spent drawing a beautiful picture of the Chapel which he said would be carved out of wood later. He was a very friendly young man and modest in spite of his success. Mrs. Colby came over to see him as they have many mutual friends and much in common. Mr. Duhanos is coming back again to sketch, among other things, the South Sudbury Depot! Mrs. Colby, by the way, said today that she would be very glad if we brought outstanding people who came to the Inn, to see her little house. We know they have a treat in store. The house is charming as well as its hostess.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of November 16 - 22, 1947 inclusive.

Thursday, November 20, 1947 Pleasant

Israel Sach who provided many of the antiques for the Inn in 1923, is a dinner guest once in awhile, bringing friends and pointing with pride to some of his favorite pieces of furniture. His shop moved sometime ago from Boston to 5 East 57th Street, New York and several antique experts have told us that Mr. Sach is still considered tops in his profession. Recently he mentioned to us the magazine "Antiques" which is an informative and enlightening monthly publication and kindly offered to send it to the Inn free of charge. Recently three copies came, the September, October and November issues. Hostesses are busy devouring information on such subjects as New England painting and the "Origin of the Hooked Rug."

Friday, November 21, 1947 Cold

A cold day in Sudbury town, thus a rather quiet day at the Inn. However, a few people braved the wintry blasts to have dinner and to enjoy the warmth and friendship of the open fires.

Among our guests, came Allen Durgin, his wife and baby daughter. Allen, a "Wayside Inn Boys School" graduate, is now in the Army Air Corps and doing quite a lot of flying. Although he enjoys this new experience, he seemed glad to return and see a few familiar faces here at the Inn. While waiting for dinner to be served, the young "Miss Durgin" entertained everyone here in the Bar Room. Fasinated by the firelight, she sat down in the tiny chair which her daddy placed by the fire and offered a jovial smile to each guest as they entered the room. Everyone enjoyed the Durgin family and we are looking forward to seeing them quite often as Mr. Durgin is stationed nearby.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of November 16 - 22, 1947 inclusive

Saturday, November 22, 1947 Cloudy and Cool

Two groups of Girl Scouts, all dressed in dark green dresses and matching caps, came to visit the Inn this morning. As the groups were small, they were allowed to take time to sign the "Guest Book" after which the hostess took them on a tour through the Inn. At the conclusion of the tour, one scout stepped forward to speak for the group to express their appreciation for such an instructive trip through the Inn.

Evening brought Mr. and Mrs. Grover Cronin as well as Mr. Sullivan from Worcester with a party of twenty. Mr. Sullivan's party enjoyed a Roast Turkey Dinner served to them on the porch. The party concluded the evening by holding a short business meeting at the tables.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of November 23 - 29, 1947

Sunday, November 23, 1947 Pleasant

"It is lots easier to move mountains than men's souls", said Robert G. LeTourneau, famous lay preacher, when he addressed a large Boston audience yesterday. Today Mr. LeTourneau was a dinner guest at the Inn and his large figure towered above all others in the dining room. His own soul was "moved" about ten years ago. Ever since then he has been a lay preacher, going all over the country in his own private plane, to "serve the Lord". In the meantime Mr. LeTourneau manufactures the world's largest earth-moving machines, bull dozers, tournapulls, angle dozers and rooters. One of his latest machines can build a house in twenty-four hours. He attributes his success to the Lord and says that "the more time I spend serving the Lord, the more my business grows."

Monday, November 24, 1947 Rain

Reservations for Thanksgiving are pouring in and the telephone is ringing constantly. The number at this moment is 698 but it varies from hour to hour as some people add a person and others take one away and still others cancel altogether. There is a hustle and bustle all through the house and outside the men are busy laying the board walk for the winter.

Mr. Robert Pell, representing White, Bower & Prevo of Detroit arrived by taxi from Framingham this morning. He will be working at the office for a week or so, taking his meals and sleeping at the Inn.

A mother was overheard saying to her little girl, "See, here is the Ball Room! Wouldn't you love to dance there?" The little girl replied, "Oh! no, that's to play ball in!"

Tuesday, November 25, 1947 Pleasant

The Boston newspapers have recently pictured two of our guests who have distinguished themselves through scientific work and social service. The lady first - is Mrs. Lawrence Dame, who is pictured at the wheel of her husband's Model T Ford. The reader of the Diary may remember that Mr. Dame arrived at the

Tuesday, November 25, 1947 (continued)

front door of the Inn on a recent Sunday in the very same car. Mrs. Dame appears in Red Cross uniform and as a member of the Motor Corps is doing errands, transporting veterans and driving patients to and from hospitals in her 1914 touring car. The other Inn guest who is a member of Professor Schell's Waysiders group is Professor Ernest A. Hauser of the Mass. Institute of Technology. He was chosen by a readers poll in the Bulletin of the American Chemical Society as the ablest chemist in the United States working in his particular field, which is colloid chemistry.

Wednesday, November 26, 1947 Pleasant - Warm

On this day before Thanksgiving the Inn is clean and shining. Greens and orange candles and gourds and pine cones have begun to appear on the mantles in the different rooms. Our hearth brooms which finally wore out have been replaced by fine new ones which came from Berea College in Kentucky. There is one hanging by each of the fireplaces. One of our house guests has asked for one of the old brooms to hang by her fireplace. When told they were past being useful she said, "Oh, I dont care. It is just for sentiment!"

Mrs. Rhoades stopped her light blue convertable Ford at the front door and came in just to say "hello!" and "Do come and see me!"

Thursday, November 27, 1947 Very pleasant

THANKSGIVING DAY

The day dawned brightly and the house was alive with a spirit of festivity. Rows upon rows of fat, browned turkeys were standing ready at an early hour to yield to the strokes of a large carving knife. Our family was to number nearly seven hundred. Six hundred and seventy-eight came. Friends and relatives, young and old and many strangers. But all were here to catch the spirit of Thanksgiving as it was celebrated for the very first time in America. The same kind of wooden utensils surrounded the guests, they sat in the same kind of chairs and ate the same kind of food. Heaping plates of Turkey, squash, potatoes and onions were set before each guest, making him aware of his good fortune and the many things for which he had to be thankful.

Thursday, November 27, 1947 (continued)

Small boys were seen to loosen their belts while Mother murmured something about abandoning her diet "just for today." The plum pudding was excellent and the mince pie was just as good as Grandmother used to make. Herman Smith, who talks about places he has been and food he has eaten, on the Marjorie Mills radio program, was here. Also Olga Owens, Book reviewer for the Boston Herald and Mary Earl Gould, author of "Old Wooden Ware." And among our overnight guests staying for the entire week-end are Madame Gurney-Raymond, Professor Christopher Salmon of Trinity College and W. S. Harvey publisher of a widely distributed Home Economics magazine. Three people from New York came to Boston on the train, then hired a taxi-cab to come to the Inn for their Thanksgiving feast. And feast it was - those who cooked it and served it think it was somewhat of a feat as well as a feast.

Friday, November 28, 1947 Pleasant

Madame Gurney-Raymond, a house guest at the Inn for several days, introduced us to a most charming young lady this afternoon. Her name - Maria Rodriquez and her home - Mexico City. Miss Rodriquez, a concert pianist, is the winner of a recent talent contest held in Boston and will be heard later in the season as guest artist with Arthur Fiedler and the Boston Pops orchestra. In the evening, Miss Rodriquez played several selections on the piano in the large Ball Room with Miss Fisher, Mr. Bell, Madame Gurney-Raymond and other house guests as an audience. At the conclusion of the evening's entertainment, Miss Fisher offered several vocal selections.

Saturday, November 29, 1947 Cold

Mr. Duncan, from Scarsdale, New York, a frequent and most interesting guest, paid us a visit today. Mr. Duncan, our "outdoor guest" spends very little of his time in the Inn for he immediately makes a quick change to his "hiking togs" and sets out for a long walk through the many wooded paths about the Inn. Nevertheless, he never fails to come back with an instructive bit of information, a ruddy complexion, and a tremendous appetite. Mr. Duncan, who usually comes alone, was accompanied on this trip by his wife and daughter. All three spent the night at the Inn and departed for New York the following morning.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of November 30 - December 6, 1947

Sunday, November 30, 1947 Cloudy

The proverbial Thanksgiving bird having had its day of practically unlimited popularity during the past week, was still the most popular dinner choice today. Roast Sirloin of Beef or well done Broiled Chicken were tossed aside and the Turkey reigned first and foremost on the dinner plates. Last Sunday with the anticipation of a gobbler in every household, turkey was chosen by the majority. Is it stylish to be seen eating turkey? Is it popularized as being fashionable? Is turkey one of the items listed on the reducing diets? Do people eat turkey because of the cranberry sauce and dressing that goes with it? Is it easier to cut and chew a slice of turkey than baked ham? Or is turkey just plain good? These are some of the questions we were asking ourselves on this first Sunday after Thanksgiving.

Monday, December 1, 1947 Very cold

The thermometer, some say, went as low as 7 degrees above zero last night, the 30th of November. In spite of the cold Mr. Hooker drove over from Framingham to have breakfast at the Inn. Winter is here and all the signs point to a "white Christmas". Our seven wild geese are still with us, getting bigger and fatter day by day. Perhaps they are planning to spend the winter.

This morning we watched a gray squirrel as he ran in and out of a hole in the large tree by the front door. He was evidently lining his nest, as he would pull a dead oak leaf from under the Japanese Yew on the other side of the path and carrying it in his mouth, scamper up the tree and disappear into the hole. After a second or two, out he came to scurry down again and select another leaf. He will have a nice warm nest and we hope plenty to eat.

Tuesday, December 2, 1947 Pleasant

Breezing in the front door on a recent afternoon was an attractive young man in gay knitted sweater which suggested the rigid Winters and out-door life of the Scandinavian countries. It was a dark blue sweater with two large white stags prancing across the front of it. The boy spoke with a foreign accent and soon two and two or rather one and one (the sweater and the accent) were put together and Captain Bjorn Arnold Rorholt of the Royal Norwegian Army made a friendly bow. He had a fine face and attractive smile and he spoke proudly of his Mother in Norway who had knit the sweater. And quite unusual for a man of his age, he seemed to have a deep appreciation of the old Inn, and of course wanted to know all about Ole Bull's connection with it. Some day he will come back, he said, because he is, for the time being, taking some special courses at Harvard College.

Wednesday, December 3, 1947 Warmer

The news of the death of Miss Ann Dieffenbach came to us today. We feel especially sad as Christmas approaches, because she and her sister, Joan, have been house guests here at this time for so many years. They took delight in helping us in our activities and preparations about the house.

Ten green and red Christmas stockings, for the Children's Party on the nineteenth, cut and stitched by Mrs. Purdy were blanket-stitched today by Miss MacKechnie. Invitations to the Party have been sent out to all employees and about fifty children are expected and there must be a stocking for every child.

A luncheon guest said with pleased surprise "There's a fire bucket upstairs with my ancestor's name on it - A. Tarbox! He came from Maine and the name is French and used to be spelled Tarbeaux.

One of a group of business men was heard to say in the Old Kitchen, pointing to the candlemold: "That's to make bullets." Some of our guests are well informed, some are not, but they all enjoy looking around the Inn.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of November 30 - December 6, 1947

Thursday, December 4, 1947 Pleasant

Last week we mentioned Herman Smith of radio fame, who was here for Thanksgiving dinner. Yesterday he was the guest of Marjorie Mills on her noon time broadcast from WBZ in Boston. Herman is the kind of person who is chatty and gets right down to the common folks level. He generally talks about food and even tho he is what is called a large "bulk" of a man and is crippled and carries a cane, he manages to do a great deal of cooking. He tries out new and interesting recipes and remembers what his mother used to make. He adds a dash of this and a dash of that and sprinkles it all with a good portion of humor. And by the way, he is a bachelor, and yesterday, when speaking on the radio, said that if he ever got married he would be married in our Martha-Mary Chapel! he thought it so beautiful. And of course, he spoke of the Inn and how he wished every "kid" in the country could see it. "I think we owe Mr. Henry Ford a debt of gratitude for preserving this museum filled with its beautiful antiques" he said. Later in the program he mentioned his good Thanksgiving dinner and how he had brought a piece of waxed paper along with him to the Inn, hoping that someone would give him a drum stick for Susie (his dog). "But no drumstick!"

Friday, December 5, 1947 Snow

This is a bad day for travelers, for the weather prediction is "three to six inches of snow", followed by rain and plenty of cold weather for the next few days." Thermometers in some sections are down to sixteen above zero.

However, the children from the Mary Lamb School, clad in their bright winter toggs, arrived for their weekly dancing lesson. Early evening brought Mr. Haynes the dancing master back to the Inn for dinner before starting out for Westboro, where he holds a dancing class each week in the "Community Hall" for pupils of High School age.

Our never to be outdone Mr. Robinson from Worcester, Massachusetts always appears on the stormy, as well as the pleasant, nights. On a stormy eve, he never gorgets to wear his bright red necktie which we all admire so much.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of November 30 - December 6, 1947

Saturday, December 6, 1947 Cold

Preparations for a "Gala Holiday" are being made at the Inn with more and more reservations for Christmas and even New Year's Day coming in each day.

Mr. Coulter, who always sings or whistles a gay tune as he works, can be seen circulating through the Inn with paint can and brush in hand, puting the finishing touches on a staircase or a mantle.

Soon the mantles, windows and tables will be decorated for the "Holiday" with wreathes, bright red ribbons and berries, as well as "laurel ropes" which will be purchased at the "Wayside Country Store."

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of December 7 - 13, 1947 inclusive

Sunday, December 7, 1947 Cloudy

Too often a day of commemoration or celebration passes without word or comment. For instance, the Fourth of July is so filled with travellers and Summer vacationists that the real significance of Independence is lost. Today, however, when the summer vacationists are all safely at home and the Inn is relatively quiet there is time to think of Pearl Harbor and the boys who died there. No one spoke of Pearl Harbor today and no one mentioned the sacrifices made there. The least we can do is pause for a moment in this daily journal to acknowledge our debt of gratitude. "In an anxious and discouraged world, we need the reinforcement of our heritage of past achievements; in a harsh and divided world, we need to reaffirm our basic loyalties."

Monday, December 8, 1947 Cold

Today the roads are icy and a light fall of snow covers the ground. Driving conditions are poor and guests are few.

Our wild geese are still here in spite of the snow. They brush it away so that they can get at the green grass underneath. When a car or truck goes by the geese are not frightened but keep on eating.

Two deer were seen crossing the road by the Hager Barn perhaps aroused by hunters in the woods. We shall be glad when the hunting season is over as one of the geese seems to have disappeared.

Tuesday, December 9, 1947 Cold - Cloudy

A sprightly Winter wind danced around the covers of the house this morning and painted red roses on the cheeks of all who entered. Not many entered. Few were riding out for pleasure on this cold day. We were therefore surprised when a gentleman and lady appeared and asked to see the house. The lady explained that the gentleman was French and could not speak English very well, but she thought he should see the Wayside Inn above all places in America.

(continued - Dec. 9, 1947)

Furthermore, she wanted him to know the history of the house and furnishings. He bowed once or twice and said "Oui, oui" as the hostess described the old kitchen and parlor. Then he registered in our special Guest Book as Maurice Bedel, Paris. His novels are well known and widely read and at present Mr. Bedel is lecturing at Harvard. With a jaunty French tilt to his hat and cheeks a bright shade of pink, our Winter morning guest might easily have stepped from the Rue de la Paix into the cozy warmth of this old New England Inn.

Wednesday, December 10, 1947 Warmer

The snow and ice are melting today making puddles of water underfoot. But overhead there is sunshine and a blue sky.

Mrs. Bennett came over after school and had tea on the porch with two ladies from Wayland.

Agnes is taking a short vacation but will be back in time for the Christmas rush.

Plans for the Christmas Party are being made and about ninety children are expected to attend. The children in the Redstone School are learning pieces to speak, songs to sing and brushing up on one or two dances. Mr. Haynes is to be Master of Ceremonies. It is hoped that fathers and mothers will join lustily in the singing of carols and that the evening will be a success from every point of view. The children will do their share, we feel very sure, and we will leave the rest to Santa Claus.

Thursday, December 11, 1947 Partly cloudy

The creaking and scraping of a snow shovel greeted the ears of Wayside Inn-ers this morning. Coulter was at work clearing the front path after last night's snow. It was a storm of short duration and the flakes were of the fluffy, light variety. But the landscape is mostly white. Within, a lazy fire flickers on the hearth with an occasional crackle and pop. The flames are now lively and full of animation, now they slow down and burn steadily. They are like our guests, some lighten the whole room when they enter while others come day after day with never a flicker to brighten our way. But all contribute something to quicken the warmth and friendliness of this old Inn. Each and every one lays a glowing ember on our hearth whether the day be white or green.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of December 7 - 13, 1947 inclusive

Friday, December 12, 1947 Cold

The Inn is beginning to catch the "Christmas Spirit". A wreath tied with "Flaming Red" ribbon may be seen in each window and at night each wreath is set off by a bright yellow candle.

A huge wreath adorns the front door, set off by yards and yards of laurel rope.

Inside the Inn everyone is kept busy preparing for the annual "Christmas Party". Christmas stockings will soon be filled; a present for each child bought and placed on the Christmas tree in the Ball Room.

Soon everything will be in readiness - the children will arrive and with wild anticipation await the coming of Santa Claus.

Saturday, December 13, 1947 Pleasant

Late this afternoon, the Martha-Mary Chapel was made the setting for a small family wedding. About fifty guests attended the marriage of Miss Ruth Baines of Framingham, Massachusetts.

Following the service, the newly married couple, along with their guests, enjoyed a Buffet Tea served to them in the small Ball room of the Inn. Assorted fancy sandwiches, fancy cakes, ice cream and coffee were served.

Pink and white chrysanthemums adorned the buffet table and made an appropriate setting, for the bride and her attendant wore deep rose suits with matching flower hats.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of December 14 - 20, 1947

Sunday, December 14, 1947 Pleasant

Perry Hayden, the Quaker miller from Tecumseh, Michigan, brought his cheering smile into the Inn today and inscribed the first page of his book - "God is my Landlord" in this fashion - "Perry Hayden, an enthusiastic guest at Wayside Inn" - Enthusiasm beamed all over his smiling, ruddy face as he spoke of his Dynamic Kernels Foundation and his wheat sharing plan. The book is filled with pictures of the various harvests, the Mill and several informal poses of Mr. Ford, the best one showing him seated in a stack of wheat. After a hasty trip through the house with Rev. Huffman, his host, Mr. Hayden was whisked off to a speaking engagement in Boston. With his warm, farewell handshake, he expressed the hope that he could return some day and spend more time here.

Also in the dining room this noon was Mr. Edwin D. Kerwood from London, who is spending some time at the Boston branch of Stienert's, the well known music company which provides Stienway pianos for famous concert artists etc. Mr. Kerwood is in charge of Stienerts' London store.

Monday, December 15, 1947 Fair

The hemlock wreaths for the windows arrived this noon bringing a breath of the fragrant pine woods into the house. Red ribbons, freshly washed and pressed were tied on to quite a few, as well as the string to hang them by, before supper time came. The work was done in the apartment where it was cool. The room was filled with the sweet smell of pine and it was with reluctance that we left this pleasant task for the mundane pleasure of eating.

Mr. Coulter has been busy all day wiring the windows for the Christmas lights. By tomorrow night there will be a light and a wreath in every window. The wreaths came from the Country Store and are especially large and luxurious so that they will just about fill each window.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of December 14 - 20, 1947, inclusive

Tuesday, December 16, 1947 Cloudy

A long table covered with a red and white cloth, stretched the length of the old kitchen this evening and provided places for twenty-two dinner guests. They were family and friends of Mr. Arthur A Williams, who was celebrating his birthday. One of the ladies handed us a birthday cake and another one a large box which contained four dozen red roses. The latter were distributed among the guests while the cake was brought in at the proper time, lighted with tiny candles.

Mr. Williams was highly pleased and remarked on leaving that everything was done just right to his taste - which we might add, is a "King's" taste.

Wednesday, December 17, 1947 Pleasant

A lady drove all the way from Connecticut today to see the birds on the estate. Her bird glasses hung by a strap around her neck and she was so eager to get out doors she could hardly wait to eat her lunch. She was especially interested in the wood ducks but when told that there were seven wild geese to see as well she was all the more anxious to get out. When the birds, recently seen on our ballroom roof, were described to her she said they must have been rose-breasted grosbeaks and that sometimes they stay all winter.

Mrs. Hannah of the Y.W.C.A. brought a group of fourteen to dinner. The reservation specified, one table in the Old Dining Room and Christmas greens for decoration. The dinner was much enjoyed by all the girls and the table looked very gay with red glass Christmas tree balls shining among the pine boughs.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of December 14 - 20, 1947

Thursday, December 18, 1947 Pleasant

The Inn was the scene this evening of a gala Christmas party held by employees of the Worcester County Institution for Savings. There were one hundred and seventy-five men and women who tossed aside financial cares and made merry in the large dining room and ball room. As a get-better acquainted gift, each person was requested to bring something for someone else. Consequently, before the first course of the Roast Beef dinner was served - the guests were tooting toy horns and dragging small rubber automobiles across the tables. One gentleman sported a new wrist watch of the Woolworth variety. Informality and jollity reigned until the ice cream dessert was served. Afterwards, a professional entertainer provided a marionette show. This was followed by old-fashioned dancing directed by Mr. Haynes.

Friday, December 19, 1947 Cold

The annual Christmas Party for the "Redstone School" children, their families and friends, was held this evening in the large Ball Room of the Inn.

The entertainment for the Christmas Party this year was put on entirely by the Redstone School pupils and featured dances such as the "Heel and Toe Polka" and the "Singing Quadrille" as well as a recitation by each child.

Following the children's program, both children and grown-ups enjoyed a visit from Santa Claus. Santa, being ably assisted this year by our jovial dancing master, Mr. Haynes.

Each child received a present, a Christmas stocking filled with pop corn and candies, as well as a bright red apple. The apples which were given to each child were donated by Mr. Hulbert, the new owner of the Wayside Inn orchards. Refreshments, consisting of ice cream and cake were served to children and guests.

It was generally felt by all present, that the Redstone School children took great pride in being a part of the festivities, rather than merely looking on.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of December 14 - 20, 1947

Saturday, December 20, 1947 Clear and cold

Our Guests

The luncheon hour today brought several "old timers" that we have not seen for quite some time. They were Mr. and Mrs. Whitney, from Framingham and an elderly gentleman named Mr. Woodbury.

Still another couple, pleased to find the Inn open during the winter months, paused in the Bar Room to look over the menu. Finally, the wife remarked "I cant decide between Chicken Livers and Chicken Pie." Well, dear, said the husband "Is life worth living? - You know it all depends upon the liver."

A party of five came to visit the Inn this afternoon and registered from Scotland. We found they had just landed in this country, so were eager to see all and everything the Inn had to offer.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of December 21 - 28, 1947

Sunday, December 21, 1947 Pleasant

This is Christmas Sunday and time for a Christmas story. The reader may remember last year's story about the carpenters who were working at the old Walker house on the afternoon before Christmas and how they laid some nails on the hearth for the new owners to see. The nails spelled "Merry Christmas." This year we have another story from the neighborhood, one which concerns the old Ezekiel Howe place and its new owners, Dr. and Mrs. Wittenborg. Mrs. Wittenborg was expected home from the hospital last week with a new baby girl. In her absence, Mazie Gould, former Inn employee, had taken care of the house and family consisting of Dr. Wittenborg and two small children. She kept the house spotlessly clean and on the afternoon of Mrs. Wittenborg's return home, Mazie had polished all the brasses, decorated with Christmas greens and otherwise prepared for a royal welcome. Mrs. Wittenborg stood in the door with babe in arms, deeply touched. "Mazie," she said, "as a kind of celebration and in appreciation, please go out somewhere with your husband and have a nice dinner together. I will pay for it." Mazie and Bob Gould were dinner guests that evening at the Wayside Inn.

Monday, December 22, 1947 Fair

Christmas cards for "Wayside Inn Folks" or "The Ladies at the Bar" or just "Hostesses" are beginning to arrive. From Dr. van Schaick comes a poem in blank verse entitled "To the Hostesses". The poem which begins "To deal with crowds and not lose the common touch" - is very flattering and so cannot be quoted in full.

Guests still come from far and near. Recently such places as Tunis, Tunisia, Montevideo, Uraguay, Honolulu and Kirkcaldy, Scotland were found in the register.

The Whitmans from Marlboro dropped in for lunch today and Mrs. Russell from Wellesley with her housekeeper and chauffeur. Mrs. Russell said proudly, "We are having Christmas Dinner at home, eleven of us!"

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of December 21 - 27, 1947

Tuesday, December 23, 1947 Snow

Today the Christmas spirit began to penetrate into every nook and corner of the house. Pine, spruce and hemlock boughs brought in for decoration, sent an aroma of Christmas tree fragrance through the air while Mr. Coulter's cheery whistle floated in and out with its timely tune, "I'm dreaming of a white Christmas." Down stairs the proverbial holiday bird was ready and waiting to be stuffed. The pair of tall silver candlesticks were undergoing a strenuous polishing while on the hearth a sleepy fire seemed, like everyone else, to be dreaming of a white Christmas. Suddenly we dashed to the window as if we had heard Santa's bells and reindeer on the night before Christmas. What we saw this afternoon were hundreds of tiny snow flakes falling gently to the ground and assuring us of a perfectly white Christmas. Our dreams had come true!

Wednesday, December 24, 1947 Pleasant

After yesterday's snowstorm during which about ten inches fell, today we look out upon a veritable fairyland. The snow is still clinging to the branches of the trees since it has been too cold for it to melt and fall off. Blue sky and sunshine make a paradise for photographers. Even at night pictures of the Inn were taken by Mr. Plowman. He spent about an hour in the cold to get a time exposure in color. We hope he has good luck and that we can see the results of his efforts.

Such a beautiful sight as the Inn at night should be preserved somehow. The warm glow of the candles in each window is reflected across the snow. The wreaths capped with snow and icicles stand out against this rosy light. Icicles also hang from festoons of green laurel twined about the pillars on each side of the front door. On this Christmas Eve it is not very difficult to imagine that Santa Claus is in that cloud of snow swirling around one of the big chimneys up there on the roof. In his sleigh drawn by eight tiny reindeer "light as the down of the thistle" they rise and disappear into the darkness.

Thursday, December 25, 1947 Very pleasant

To make Christmas 1947 a perfect day, the sun shone brightly on a completely white-coated World. At least it was white in this little corner where the Inn itself with snow-capped wreaths and icicles dripping from every roof top and window sill, expressed in a beautiful, dignified way, the warmth and friendliness, the joy and gladness of Christmas. Nestled down among the winter hills, the Inn looked like a Christmas card, a picture which became real and alive when boys and girls dressed in gay mufflers and mittens came dancing down the front walk, carrying dolls and toys and teddy bears from Santa's pack. One tiny tot tinkled the bells on the peak of her bright red cap and asked over and over - "Can you hear Santa Claus coming?"

Across the dining tables friends greeted friends with a "Merry Christmas". Several guests shook hands with a young school boy from England. Towards evening when young and old had gone to their homes and when a candle had been lighted behind the wreath in every window, the Inn again became a Christmas card and within its folds, a single word was written - "PEACE."

Friday, December 26, 1947 Snow

A snow storm of intense force blanketed New England today, leaving a deposit of from twelve to fifteen inches of snow.

Boston fared quite well, as the snow soon turned to rain, but here in Sudbury we have a truly beautiful winter scene.

The pine trees bow low with the weight of the snow, the lamps in front of the Inn look as if they would topple over with the weight of the snow and huge crystal clear icicles hand from each door and window.

Our Grist Mill took on a grandeur look and although the wheel is laden with ice and snow, it continues to turn slowly but surely. The Chapel also looks cold but beautiful on its mountain of pure white snow.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of December 21 - 27, 1947

Saturday, December 27, 1947 Cold

Mme. Gurney-Raymond, who lives at Trinity Court in Boston, came to the Inn today for a few days rest. The Madame - as she is called - sang in many light operas and at one time sang and traveled with the famous tenor "Scottie."

Mme. Gurney-Raymond teaches Vocal Therapy and although it is an interesting profession, it is also a tiresome one - so she seeks a little relaxation at our Inn.

When leaving she exclaimed "My next visit to the Inn will be in March when the lambs are born." Mme. who is quite fond of animals likes to sit on the Porch and watch the lambs grazing in the field across the way.

THE WAYSIDE INN

DIARY

Week of December 28, 1947 - January 3, 1948

Sunday, December 28, 1947 Cloudy

The neighbors have been particularly neighborly during the holidays and today Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Smith entertained at a Christmas tea which was attended by Mr. and Mrs. Purdy and Miss Staples. Also attending were our newer neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell, who purchased the old Hager house and Mr. and Mrs. Temple who bought the Jones place. Also Mr. and Mrs. Colby who have been living in the Walker house about a year. The Colbys gave their neighborhood party on Christmas night. It was not really a party, but an informal gathering of good friends around the huge fireplace in the little seventeenth century house on Peakham Road.

Monday, December 29, 1947 Very cold

It is almost time to begin our annual stock taking, that is, checking of library books and all the antiques through-out the house. Another chore, and a new one this year, will be writing letters to about sixty brides and grooms who have been married at the Martha-Mary Chapel. When we have had four more weddings there, we will have reached the one hundred mark. We are asking each couple to contribute pictures of their wedding so that we can make our Bride's Book more complete and more interesting to future brides and grooms. Some have already done this, but the majority have not, and we are hoping each one of these will respond to our request. A beginning was made today by the typing of about thirty envelopes.

Tuesday, December 30, 1948 Pleasant

In the rush of the holiday season we neglected to mention a distinquished guest who paid us an overnight visit on Thursday, December 18th. He was Rex Stout, writer of mystery stories and creator of the well known character, Nero Wolf. Mr. Stout is distinquished looking also and attracted some attention in the dining room with a neatly trimmed goatee and a brisk, lively manner. He was on his way early Friday morning after a brief telephone call and after putting his signature in our special Guest book.

Tuesday, December 30, 1947 (continued)

Another of our guests who has distinquished herself as an author is Miss Esther Forbes of Worcester who visits the Inn occasionally and who has just won the semi-annual Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer novel award for her book, tentatively titled "The Running of the Tide." This award carries with it a minimum of $150,000. to the author with a possibility of $250,000. contingent upon sales.

Wednesday, December 31, 1947 Cloudy)

After the recent snowstorms a great deal of snow has accumulated on the various roofs of the Inn. Today's higher temperature has caused it to melt and this means that there may be leaks in the house. Mr. Coulter is continually watching out for them but just at the moment they all seem to be under control. Evidently there will be some ice on the roads later as our sand truck just went by with Mr. MacMillan busily shoveling sand in the rear.

Two ladies from the Brookline Bird Club came for lunch and to look for birds. They walked up to the Country Store and on their return gave a report of the birds they saw as well as a fox.

On this New Year's Eve about one hundred boys and girls from Worcester had a dance in the large Ball Room beautifully decorated with balloons of all colors and shapes and sizes. Inconspicuously tied to the centre chandelier was a small piece of mistletoe. They had a wonderful time, danced the New Year in and left at about one o'clock in the morning.